ROTARY CLUB OF MENDOCINO

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

HELD ON May 2, 2024

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The club meeting, held in Preston Hall, was called to order at 12:00. We had a total attendance of 7, including President Toby, President-Elect Margaret, Secretary Jeff, Treasurer Brandt, Youth Services Chair Donna, International Chair Matt, and photographer Leona Walden, comprising a quorum of 6 board members and 1 honorary member.

OLD BUSINESS

It was moved that the minutes of our Board meeting of April 4, 2024 be approved. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

We discussed last week’s Town Hall Meeting, and decided to follow up on it with others if possible within the next three months. Jeff recommended we prepare three documents, including a Press Release which Leona drafted and Ted has commented on, for release to the Beacon tomorrow; detailed notes along lines recently circulated to all members, now being improved, to be kept for club use only, as are most meeting minutes; and a more concise summary of the themes discussed, which will be reviewed by Ted and approved by the Board, and which will be made available to the general public and attendees.

Having said this, the documentation was only the start of the actions to be taken going forward. Leona suggested that any messages to the County be copied to Ted for his information and followup, and we discussed other measures such as identifying persons or community based groups that could follow up on certain actions, such as fiscal balance or property taxation. Margaret suggested we have a Town Hall meeting every 3 months.

We talked about the speaker invites, and Toby mentioned names such as Jim Wood, Chris Rogers, Jared Huffman and Neil Cervenka. Brandt noted that Rotary should not become involved in political affairs, though we could look into community matters. Jeff noted that Angela Matano, Director of the Film Festival, would talk next week, while Terra Fuller would speak on State Parks on May 23 and Paul Garza of the Mendocino Coast Health Care District would be featured on June 13. In the meantime, we will invite Neil Cervenka, Police Chief of Fort Bragg, and others to speak.

On May 9 we will give the awards to the Community Service winners, and give each the opportunity to speak. The awards ceremony will take the first half hour, and the Film Festival talk the next 20 minutes of the meeting. Jeff will let Angela Matano know.

Donna and Matt described current activities related to Youth, International and Park services.

We talked about possible candidates for district grants, likely to be about $2,200, and observed that they could include another project in Fiji, the replacement of the Hospitality House water heater, repairs at Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, work in the Park and a joint project with other clubs. The deadline for submitting a request is July 31, so we need to make a decision by early July.

We noted that there was a provision of $2,000 in the budget for disaster relief, of which $1,000 had been used for Maui, and that the balance of $1,000 could be used in several ways: for Vanuatu, which had been hit by two cyclones and was now rebuilding; another event that might come up here in the United States before the end of the year; or a grant to the District 5130 disaster relief fund. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved that we would use it for a grant to the Victory School of Hope in Vanuatu. Matt will decide how to get the funds to the school.

We discussed possible use of the Park in the near future, and decided that Donna would contact Sean to discuss the theme for the 4th of July parade.

Toby noted that the Interact Club had voted to donate $750 to Haiti and $250 to Fiji.

We decided to hold the Spring Retreat meeting on May 14 in Preston Hall from 5:30 to 7:30 provided the timing is ok with the Church and the Picnic in the Park in the Park on the afternoon of June 15.

Jeff distributed the list of current members as shown in MyRotary, and we discussed our membership expectations for next year. The RI list showed that we have 22 members at present of whom 1, Leona, is honorary. Margaret noted that we have one applicant, Tim Stone, who would like to transfer from Fort Bragg to our club in the near future, and Kelly Urbana, who would be applying this summer. So if we do not lose anyone we have a reasonable expectation of up to 25 members in the early part of next year.

We also had a very preliminary discussion of possible developments in the administration budget for next year, expected to be on the order of $9,000-10,000 depending on how the accounts look in the next month or so. A projection was circulated showing the details of the expenditure estimates and indicating we might have to raise our membership and/or lunch fees. Margaret said that we might be able to reserve collections from pure fund raisers such as the Fourth of July under which persons purchased good or services offered by the club at market prices for the administration account. It appears, however, that this might require a change in the bylaws (see Article H item 7) which we could look at in the near future. Next year’s RI dues would be $96.50 per member, including the magazine, and the District 5130 dues would be $65. Our dues appear to be less than other wealthier clubs in our district and we will have to check with Fort Bragg.

The next Club meeting will be Thursday, May 9 at 12:00 noon in Preston Hall. We will have an awards ceremony for Community Service grant recipients followed by a talk on the Film Festival by Angela Marano.

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Prepared by Jeffry Stubbs, Secretary

May 5, 2024