

Rotary



Merced Sunrise Rotary Club & Charity Zone 26, Area 8, District 5220, Club 22798 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 24, 2017
Time: 5:30PM
Location: 5671 Carmela Court, Merced
Members Present: Rich Miller (T), Bob Casey (P), Mike Altomare (PE), Eric Moore (S), Douglas Forte (International Service Director), Donald Barclay (Vocational Service Director), Regina Cherf (Club Service Director) Steve Benner (Community Service Director), Butch Hughes (Youth Service Director),
Members Absent: Cathy Paskin (IPP), Mike Cuchna (VP)
Guests: Frank Reed (Foundation Chair)
Reference: General Monthly Board Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Bob.
2. **Roll Call:** As listed above.
3. **Approval of Agenda (attached):** M/S/C Rich, Don, Aye.
4. **Approval April 24, 2017 Board Minutes:** M/S/C, Rich, Mike A, Aye.
 - A. Rich mentioned that he misspoke on the prior meeting approved motion for future international travel. The motion was for future *budgeted* travel, not a one time event. Without objection, the prior minutes were amended to show an intention to budget travel as a normal and customary Club/Charity expense going forward.
5. **Leadership Reports**
 - A. **President.**
 1. **Scholarships.** The Club recently disbursed three \$500 scholarships to former RYLA participants. The Club also issued \$1,000 Field of Honor funds to Merced College for a “veteran scholarship.” MC noticed the Club those monies are still un-awarded.
 2. **Formal Organization Chart.** The Club is endeavoring to create a formal and transparent understanding of roles and direct reports going forward. The purpose is to streamline budgeting and funding decisions for members and directors alike.
 3. **Paul Harris Society.** The Club will make a major announcement at the June 30 kick-out party.

4. **New Member.** A new member was advanced for consideration. At issue is whether to use the normal process or the emerging corporate membership framework. The official application is still pending.

B. President-Elect.

1. **Next Fiscal Year Budget & Officers.** Mike A has the budget finalized with a copy circulating before the June 8 board meeting.
2. **Unused Monies and New Projects.** Mike A expressed a general concern that Field of Honor operations yield an annual unspent surplus. The Club endeavors to find outlets for these monies. In an effort to otherwise “look over the horizon” at future Club projects and related funding, Mike A asked that a committee be formed to act as a clearing house for new Club projects. Mike A asked the board for volunteers. Eric M volunteered chairing said “Moonshot Committee” going forward.

C. Vice President.

1. **New Vice President Search.** The board discussed the role, options and nominated Pope Lawrence with an understanding that it is a four year commitment. Pope has deep experience as Treasurer as well. M/S/C Frank, Butch, Aye.
2. **UC Merced Vocation Site Visit.** In Mike C's absence, Bob and Donald confirmed all outstanding matters were resolved.

D. Treasurer.

1. **Banking Signature Authorities.** Rich requested Eric M prepare a separate Board Meeting Minutes to specify new officer signers for the new fiscal year Club/Charity bank activities. A separate document will be disbursed to select officers for bank use.
2. **Financial Report.** Rich presented a fiscal year-to-date budget and actual Income Statement and Balance Sheet for both the Club and Charity. The Board and Club members are encouraged to ask questions at any time.

E. Secretary.

1. **No Report.**

6. Activity Reports

A. Club Service/Administration.

1. **Survey.** Gina will be circulating a survey to capture membership concerns and needs.

B. Community Service.

1. **New Beginnings Grant.** Steve B wanted to acknowledge his involvement with New Beginnings for Merced County Animals. At the

prior board meeting, New Beginnings received a \$1,000 grant per the normal grant process and Steve B was not present, nor voted in that approval.

2. **End of Year Budget & Healthy House.** Steve B is receiving many (seven) last-minute requests and otherwise using unallocated funds as appropriate. Certain prior budgeted grantees have not made requests and new requests will be accommodated going forward at Steve B's discretion and input. Alan mentioned that area non-profit Healthy House should be entitled to a \$450 grant because of their unique position in the community and their impending presentation at the Club breakfast June 16. (Many presenters are budgeted grantees and routinely receive a \$500 grant in this way.) M/S/C Rich, Alan, Aye.

C. Vocational Service.

1. **Vocational Trips.** Donald arranged a tour of UC Merced facilities for May 26.
2. **Central California Women's Facility (CCFW) VFW Post.** Don mentioned that the nearby Chowchilla women's state prison maintains a VFW post and the current or exiting inmates may be possible beneficiaries of Field of Honor mini-grants or Vocational grants going forward. Don will do more research.

D. International Service.

1. **Uganda Water Well Project.** Doug stated updates from the region are limited and sporadic. The subject well is scheduled to begin drilling with an unknown date.
2. **International Travel Budget.** Rich (again) made a motion that international service travel be budgeted for normal and customary due diligence on RI mandated sustainable projects. M/S/C Rich, Mike A, Aye.

E. Youth Service.

1. **Middle School All-Star Game.** Butch reported that the event turned back \$715 in raised monies after all other expenses were covered from operations. These monies will be reused by Youth Services.
2. **Little League Project.** Butch described the current Youth Leagues/Little League in Atwater and Merced. At issue is the control of middle school baseball fields for teams. The area has motivated people and extensive resources to draw upon and the Club will make serious inquiries.

F. Foundation Update.

1. **Annual Giving.** Frank stated the Club is one of the top contributors in the District, which is remarkable when compared to other much larger clubs and markets.

2. **Livescan.** Frank suggested the entire Club undergo background checks.
3. **Awards.** Frank wants to see the Club better represented in District awards. It will take a concerted public relations effort to improve this matter via the website. The Club does a lot of remarkable things, but does little to document everything as it is a time consuming process. (It is noted the bylaws provide for a Public Relations officer.)

G. Membership Update.

1. **Corporate Membership.** Alan reported a draft application and marketing memo is being evaluated and will be dispersed to the board. This matter does have some weight as the Club may want to evaluate new members on this basis. At issue is how to price value to corporate decision makers to obtain genuine and profound community participation.
2. **Family Membership.** Alan would also like to examine an inclusive Family Membership going forward. While RI issues a general provision to discount spouse memberships dues 50%, Alan thinks there is an opportunity to capture more participation.

Next Meeting Date: 5:30PM June 8, 2017 at 1052 Main Street, Merced.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Eric A. Moore

Secretary

June 5, 2017