DISTRICT 5970 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 6, 2020
ZOOM FORMAT
9:05 A.M.

The May 6, 2020 Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph Smith at 9:05 a.m. via Zoom format. The following board members were present: Board Chair Ralph Smith, PDG Neil Fell, DG Michelle Bell, DGE Lowell Stoolman, DGN Jeff Hassman, Foundation Chair and DGN-D Don Meyer, and District Treasurer Eric Levenhagen. Also present was District Executive Secretary Suellen Kolbet.

Moved by Fell, seconded by Bell; That the Consent Agenda be approved. All ayes. Motion carried. The items on the Consent Agenda were as follows:

Minutes of the 2-13-20, 3-15-20, and 3-26-20 Board of Directors meetings
RYLA Board minutes of 2-7-20
Rotaract/Interact minutes of 3-11-20
DG Line minutes of 4-6-20
Finance Committee minutes of 2-26-20
Foundation Committee minutes of 3-16-20
Electronic Votes
Club Votes
Google Analytics for February, March, and April, 2020

The Board reviewed the following reports:

DES Activity Report
DG Report
DGE Report
DRFCC Report
Committee Reports (Public Image, Youth Exchange, District Training, YRYLA, Rotex)

Moved by Bell, seconded by Meyer; To approve Committee and Leadership reports. All ayes. Motion carried.

Michelle Bell has been appointed to the position of Assistant Regional Foundation Coordinator from Zone 29, effective July 1, 2020.

DGE Stoolman reported on communication he has received regarding Rotary International response to COVID-19. Some of the highlights were:

- The International Convention will be held virtually on June 20-26, 2020
- All club and district meetings are encouraged to held virtually
- Strongly encouraged districts to consider ending youth exchange and returning students home (District 5970 has done this)
- All Rotary funded travel has been cancelled through May 31, 2020

The Rotary International Board will be meeting June 22, 2020 and will issue further guidance.

Financial Reports for the period ending March 31, 2020 were discussed. Moved by Fell, seconded by Meyer; That Financial Reports be approved. All ayes. Motion carried.

DG Bell informed the Board that she had hired Mariah Obiedzinski to write her communications, and since there is a surplus this year, requested that she be reimbursed. The 2020-2021 budget includes this expense for DGE Stoolman's year. Ralph Smith also volunteered to assist with any writing in the future. Moved by Smith, seconded by Fell; To reimburse DG Bell for the cost of a writer for the 2019-2020 year, in the amount of $3,450. All ayes. Motion carried.

DG Bell also requested that she be able to retain some of the reserves from this year's budget for travel to clubs to deliver awards. She would also like to be able to use the rest of her International Conference budget to attend the conference in Taipei, Taiwan. The Board agreed to this.

The Board discussed presenting the Financial reports for the year ending June 30, 2019, including the District Foundation funds, to the Club presidents. DES Kolbet will research the Rotary International requirements and PDG Fell will work with Foundation Chair Meyer to prepare the necessary reports.

The next Board meeting was set for August 25, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. DGE Stoolman will work on setting up the Board meetings for the rest of the Rotary year. The next DG Line meeting was set for August 10, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Both meetings will be via Zoom. DES Kolbet work set up the rest of the DG Line meetings when the dates of the Board meetings are set.

DES Kolbet reported on the status of Public Image grants. 19 clubs applied, two have completed the projects and have been reimbursed, nine have submitted their artwork for approval but have not submitted bills, and eight have not submitted their artwork. Kolbet will communicate with clubs who have not completed their projects, reminding them of the deadline and if they are not going to be completed, ask them for an interim report and an extension request. It was also suggested that Mariah Obiedzinski be asked to join the Public Image Team, because of her writing expertise.

Foundation Chair Meyer reported on the status of Global Grant reports. There is only one Global Grant that is delinquent in their reporting. 70% of grant reports must be current to be in compliance. DG Bell will be the Global Grants chair next year. She will include in the training instructions on uploading information so it will be easier for them to remain current.

Foundation Chair Meyer reported on the COVID 19 grants. 37 clubs applied, so $12,000 will be used from next year's DDF funds. The District will still have $67,000 of DDF to award in 2020-2021.

DGE Stoolman reported on NCPETS held in Rochester on March 12-14, 2020. 25 PE's attended. 15 more were trained in April and one more training session has been set for May 19.

The RYLA Board has chosen Ward Budweg of the Decorah Club to take Mike Babcock's position on the Board, effective July 1, 2020 and has asked for approval. Moved by Smith, seconded by Fell; To confirm the appointment of Ward Budweg to the RYLA Board, effective July 1, 2020. All ayes. Motion carried.

RYLA and YRYLA have been cancelled for 2020. There have been some concerns with the YRYLA program, Bell, Stoolman, and Hassman will meet with Betsy Kutter to discuss the future of the program.

DGN Hassman reported on the Friendship Exchange. He has not had any correspondence with the Australians, but will propose that Rotarians from our District will go in the Fall of 2020 and they will come here in the spring of 2021. This will all depend on what happens with COVID 19.

DES Kolbet reported on certification of Club Youth Protection Officers. 15 clubs do not have a certified Youth Protection Officer at this time.

DG Bell reported that there has been a good response to her request for District Leadership and Club Presidents to take the Rotary International Harassment Training Course. She will make sure all District Leadership has taken it. 90 members of District 5970 have completed the course and two District leaders are delinquent at this time.

The District Governor Interview Committee, consisting of Neil Fell, Ralph Smith, Michelle Bell, Don Meyer, and Joey Taylor (past Dubuque Club President) interviewed candidates and selected Carole Bernhard of the Bancroft Area Rotary Club as District Governor for the 2023-2024 Rotary year. Notification will be sent out to Club Presidents, as per Rotary International guidelines.

DGN Hassman and DGE Stoolman reported on Assistant District Governor training held on April 24, 2020. The majority of the ADG's were present and the training went well.

Foundation Chair Meyer reported that he received a call from Annual Giving Officer Edina Mehovic and our District is 3% ahead of last year in giving to the Annual Fund. The Duck Race was held virtually on April 25, 2020, 992 ducks were purchased, which raised almost $5,000.

Moved by Hassman, seconded by Meyer; That the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held on August 25, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom.