

Minutes of 10/09/2019 Board of Directors Meeting

Board Members Present: Tony Ammendolia, Darlene Ference, Barbara Plonski, Mike Albarelli, Chris Booras, Susan Staples Smith, John Gallo, Dan Weir, Maura Ammendolia, Pete Levesque, Allen Gould

Members present: Charlie Zaccaria, Ralph Lutjen, Peter Deveau, Liz Hughes*, Roger Aubrey, Clark Mitchell, Ralph Fiore, Dick Check*, Tim George*

Guest present: Jeanine Leveque*

*Individual stayed for the entire board meeting

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Darlene Ference at the Abenaki Trail restaurant.

Note: This paragraph belongs in September minutes but was intentionally withheld until the presentation of Honorary Member and Naming Scholarship was presented to Jim Dunwell. At the September meeting, the motion was made by Chris Booras and seconded by Darlene Ference for the club to award a scholarship in Jim's name in the amount of \$1000 to a hospitality student annually if possible. All in favor. A motion was made by Peter Deveau and seconded by Barbara Plonski to use American funds for the award. All in favor.

Motion to approve the minutes from the September Board Meeting by Dan Weir. Second by Tony Ammendolia. All in favor.

Since the Treasurer's report was not distributed to the board in advance, a **motion** was made by Dan Weir with a second by Pete Levesque to table until the November meeting. All in favor.

Past President Ralph Lutjen who audited our books for last year presented his findings to the board. He followed the same time period April to April that Dennis Pidherny, the former auditor, used. Ralph did recommend that going forward the club tie its audit to the club's fiscal year (October to September). He also recommended that expenditures by the board be summarized at the bottom of minutes. This has been adopted. He also felt that the general membership should be made aware of the depth of our donations to the valley and beyond. Ralph felt we could improve on a method to record cash receipts for Happy Dollars, 50/50 Raffle and members paying for meals in cash. He said there were no red flags raised by the audit. He said he felt his audit was comprehensive and sufficient and thanked Allen Gould for his help. A **motion** was made by Tony Ammendolia with a second by John Gallo to accept the report. All in favor.

Darlene Ference reported the following resignations from the club: Dennis and Joan Pidherny, Vicki Corbridge, Marci Drew and Maggie Perkins. Jim Dunwell's status is now Honorary Member.

Barbara Plonski collected signed Conflict of Interest forms from board members. These are documents where board members list other charities, employers or businesses with which the club may do business with or make donations to in order to avoid a conflict of interest when voting.

Tim George told the board that Family Day this year will be April 15. He and Barbara Reilly are working on an idea.

Tim George explained the history behind the Sandy Smith Scholarship for the benefit of newer members. Dan Weir asked Allen to give a history of the growth and distribution of all the scholarships to the board at a future meeting.

The main objective of the October board meeting is to discuss the budget. Comments included:

Ralph said that more mouth guards will be distributed this year due to the fact that fittings are now being conducted at the same time as sports physicals. He plans to apply for the dental grant again.

Darlene explained the addition of the amount of \$1000 for C.A.S.A which is an organization to which she belongs that provides court appointed guardians to represent children. She works with local children.

The board is thankful to the Mountain Garden Club for the flowers in our gazebo.

Changes to the budget include:

Removal of Administrative portion of budget for tonight's discussion. Allen will assist Darlene is creating a new version with a different format for approval at a future meeting.

Page 2 Other Expenses

Change President's Discretionary to \$763 to balance budget

Change D&P Insurance to \$0, already covered in our dues to KI

Change KI Web service to \$612 to include web hosting services for our website, missing from budget, this item now covers cost of Portal Buzz at \$35 per month and \$48 per quarter for web hosting

Possible new line item for Crime Insurance at \$145 annually (protect club from theft by volunteers) – Dick Ficke said Angels and Elves would pay this to avoid adding to budget

Motion to approve the Charitable budget with changes and removal of the Administrative portion by Tony Ammendolia with a second by Barbara Plonski. All in favor.

The last half hour was spent in a frank discussion of the direction of the club. Although the food is good and we are welcomed at Eagle Mountain, the feeling was the location is too distant to be easily accessible to younger members who are still working and that it makes it more difficult to attract younger people. Ann Mills said that is the reason she has stopped attending meetings. The board discussed ways to shorten meetings by conducting business first and making eating supper optional for those who want to stay. Members discussed making it less expensive to be a Kiwanian by ordering appetizers or something less expensive than a full meal from a menu.

It was also discussed that some members feel that we are becoming too much of a social club. Many of the board members liked the idea of more service projects especially at meetings like helping with the K Kid pennies.

The board is considering the continuation of board meetings on a regular meeting night. This reduces the number of regular meetings by 10. Of the 41 Wednesdays from September to mid-June, the projected distribution of meetings under the new arrangement would be:

19 regular meetings where club business, service projects, fundraising projects and youth reports are discussed among all members

10 board meeting only nights; members are welcome

2 nights we do not meet due to Thanksgiving and Christmas

10 nights we do not discuss club business, service projects, fundraising projects and youth reports because we are attending:

Golf with Rotary

Installation

Fryeburg Fair

Holiday Party

Key Club Spaghetti Dinner

Dine Around

Feast of the Valley

Kiwanis Family Day

Passport Book Rollout

Key Club Banquet

Members discussed whether this reduction in face time among members will affect our fundraising efforts. Darlene asked members to think about our discussions. No decisions were made.

Barbara Plonski summarized activity on the Autumn Express. Over 221 tickets have been sold with 84 coach seats left. She has enough volunteers but not enough gift baskets to raffle. Marie Lee and Nancy Marquis are coordinating the baskets. We may have club banners on the train sides.

Dan Weir asked if the club should publish a date by which applicants must ask us for money. He was advised that Barry can let Key Club members know a date but the board did not want to be too public about possible donations.

Mike Albarelli said a school counselor will speak to the club about gap years and how the college admissions process considers them.

Pete Levesque asked about the lack of playground equipment for handicapped children. He knows someone who is doing fundraising. He was advised to tell that person to submit a request in writing to the board.

John Gallo asked Dick Ficke if the goods associated with Angels and Elves are insured. Dick responded that items stored in the bank basement were safe. He will think about what else is stored in the warehouse and if it merits insurance.

Darlene asked those present what they felt about the meeting at Abenaki. All agreed it was a good central location with easy parking and all were in favor of ordering off a menu and enjoyed their food.

The next board meeting is November 13 at Abenaki.

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. by Dick Ficke with a second by Ann Mills. All in favor.

Summary of Expenditures (this is being added to Minutes each month to assist club auditor)

\$465 KHS Music Dept to enable students to compete at a U Massachusetts event

\$2000 68 Hours of Hunger to help with the distribution of food to school age children who do not have enough to eat over a weekend

\$700 Tin Mountain to assist with nature programs for youth

(All of these are budgeted items included in the 2018-2019 budget year and written requests were received for each)