



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

**Rotary International District 6780 College of Governors Meeting
April 22, 2022**

In attendance: DG Cindy Gammons, DGE Alan Clark, DGN Susie Cantrell, DGND Rob Dansereau, PDG Greg Maciolek, PDG Bobby Davis, PRIP John Germ, PDG Frank Rothermel, PRID Karen Wentz, PDG Ron Appuhn, PDG Debbie Alexander Davis, PDG Jack Bailey, PDG Jim Buckner, RIDN Beth Stubbs, PDG Bruce Goldsen, PDG Sue Goldsen, PDG Jim Devlin, Treasurer Jenifer Campbell and Secretary Patty Daughtrey.

Call to Order:

DG Cindy Gammons

DG Cindy called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. She welcomed all the participants and called on Carol Foster for inspirational words, who reminded us of the special bond shared with one another and with Rotary. She asked for God's help in meeting the many needs in the world.

Secretary's Report:

District Secretary, Patty Daughtrey

As there were no corrections to the Nov. 14 minutes, a motion was made by Karen Wentz and seconded by Ray Knowis to admit the minutes as written. The motion passed.

State of the District Report:

DG Cindy Gammons

Cindy noted her year was going fast and she appreciated everyone's support. She reported that all clubs were now meeting in person after Covid's toil and **membership** stood at 2880 which represents + 90 new members, and we have been recognized in the Zone for our membership increase. **Rotaract** continues to struggle with basically the loss of two years in functioning and recruiting. Although **RYLA** had to be canceled, it is on target to regale next September. The **Interact** conference drew over 500 and 12 Interact clubs met Cindy's *Bear Hugs* for polio challenge in first selling and later donating the bears to emergency services, representing \$39,000 with matches in polio donations in addition to outright gifts from Interactors bringing the match total to \$50,000. **The Four-Way Test Speech Contest** was held at the Interact Conference and had good participation with great students. The winner, Hannah Cannon, will give her speech during the District Conference. **Purple Pinkie Day** had another highly successful campaign in raising polio funds. **Communication** is consistent with frequent Facebook posts and the monthly district newsletter. **Training** is ongoing with 7 graduates this year in the DLA and RLI is scheduled for April 30. The District Training Assembly is planned for May 14. The **Empowering Girls** initiative will continue into next year. Ron Appuhn is serving as Ambassador for the Zone, and he has been training DGs. Four clubs reached the **milestone** of 100 years of service including Lebanon, Morristown Noon, Tullahoma and Shelbyville. Pigeon Forge will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on May 25. Cindy apprised the COGs that Morristown AM and Morristown Noon will

merge on July 1. She summed up that our clubs have been successful in achieving the RI theme this year of serving to change lives.

The Rotary Foundation Report:

DRFC Debbie Alexander Davis

Debbie reminded us that Immunization week will take place the last week of April promoted on Facebook. She provided a review of the District's last three years of giving. We currently lead the Zone is annual fund and polio giving. The upcoming Million Dollar Dinner has raised close to 1.3 M in cash and pledges. Two goals have met: raising money and increasing knowledge of the foundation. We have 6 new Bequest Society members, 15 new Major Donors and 9 new Major Gifts. PHS Chair Karen has set a goal for Paul Harris Society members this year at 200. Today we stand at 192. The Endowment Fund YTD totals \$38,333, (compared to \$1200 last year.) "Solicitors" for the Million Dollar Dinner were trained on how to ask for money. The plan is to continue using these trained solicitors going forward serving the Foundation Committee. This year there were 33 district grants approved with 5 multi-clubs projects involving 41 clubs. Requests for grants totaled \$210,009 with \$155,000 available, exemplifying the success in grants training. The total DDF allocated equals \$165,276. A new District Foundation Subcommittee was named to oversee long term use of district designated funds.

Sadly, John notified us that Celeste Herbert is leaving our district with an upcoming move to New England. She will be missed.

Please see Debbie's full report distributed prior to the meeting.

Leadership Development & Education Report:

RIDN Beth Stubbs, District Trainer

Beth recapped all the training avenues in the District: Vibrant club workshops, District and Global Grants training, PETS Orientation, District Leadership Academy, Rotary Leadership Institute, District Team Training Seminar, and the upcoming District Training Assembly. (She led a brief explanation of the DLA for our RI President Representative Bruce Goldsen, as this is a D. 6780 specific training for future District leaders.)

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer, Jenifer Campbell

Jenifer presented the financial record for the year ending June 30, 2021. She highlighted the statement by noting we ended the year with \$252, 019 in assets, setting aside \$10,568 for liabilities such as Fred Brown and Vocational scholarships, leaving over \$241,180 available for reserves and operations of the District, (reserve estimate is about \$115,000.) There were only a few accounts that ran over the budget and all overages were approved by the finance committee. Disbursements were \$40,467 which was only 32% of the budgeted amount of \$127,180 largely due to the curtailment of activities due to Covid. We had a net increase in funding of \$4963 vs. a plan deficit of \$11,400. Jenifer also covered the YTD financials and reported that as of March 31, we have \$305,448 in total assets with \$8,550 set aside for scholarship reserves, leaving \$266,384 available for operations of the District. Our change in net assets, (income) to date is \$55,456. Receipts to date are \$82, 505 vs our budgeted amount of \$109,908. We are in the process of

collecting dues from a couple of clubs and the fees for PETS, so receipts will go up by \$25,000. Disbursements to date are \$72,600 or 57% of our budgeted expenses.

Finance Committee Report:

RIDN, 2021-22 Beth Stubbs Chair

Beth notified the College of Governors that she had approached PDG Jerry Wear to replace her on the finance committee for a 3-year term beginning July 1, but she had not yet heard back from him. Therefore, no election took place.

Resolutions Committee Report:

PDG Bobby Davis, Chair

Bobby reported that the committee had done a complete review and overhaul of the district Rules of Procedure the previous year, so he had no resolutions to put forth this year. He did add that there would be another thorough review of the ROP to ensure compliance following the recent Council on Legislation.

Council on Legislation Report:

PRID Karen Wentz

Karen thanked the COGs for the opportunity to serve as our District's Representative to the COL. She shared that this year it was a unique hybrid event with 60% attending in person. The in-person attendees in Chicago were 'masked up' with successful discussion participation from those representatives attending from home. The voting platform ran very smoothly. There were 90 enactments considered. A very special moment occurred when the representative from Ukraine was introduced, who managed to get to Chicago under the burden of travel due to the war, with a standing ovation. Karen covered some of the major enactments that passed including; an incremental member dues increase of \$4.00, \$3.50 and \$3.50 beginning in the 23-24 Rotary year through the 25-26 Rotary year, making annual dues \$82.00 per member by 2026; Equity, Diversity and Inclusion has been added to the by-laws; the requirement that a member live or work in the geographic locality of the club has been removed from the by-laws; active members may now propose membership to a club other than their own; monthly attendance reports are no longer required to be sent to the District Governor, (Rotary Club of Maryville proposal.) Karen noted that the decisions of the Council are available for review on the RI website and encouraged everyone to review. The next COL will take place in 2025 and proposals are due by December 2023. Karen will be serving in this role until June 30, 2023.

Remarks by DGE:

DGE Al Clark

Al invited everyone to the pinning ceremony on June 26 at the Monteagle Inn beginning at 2:00 pm. (Attendees can now register on Dacdb). He noted that the District Team Assembly is scheduled for May 14 which includes a make-up for those PEs who missed Mid-South PETS in March. He is already busy planning his District Conference at the DreamMore Resort in Pigeon Forge on May 4-6. He reminded everyone of the Rotary theme for 22-23 of *Imagine Rotary* as well as his district theme, "Serve Rotary Well." Al is assembling his team sharing that Edna Varner, Chattanooga, has accepted the role of Interact Chair. Ed Jones, (Farragut) has accepted the

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair. He plans to continue the focus on the Empowering Girls and hopes to develop two cause-based clubs during his year.

Remarks by DGN:

DGN Susie Cantrell

Susie commented that she has enjoyed working with Cindy on the district conference, (she is serving as chair), and says she is in the “preplanning preplanning phase” of her term as Governor.

Remarks by DGND:

DGND Rob Dansereau

Rob remarked that he appreciated being selected as the District Governor for 24-25 and he is learning a great deal. He hopes to spend more time with the district leaders in the room.

Invited Comments:

PDG Bruce Goldsen, RIP Rep

Bruce said that he was thrilled to be with us and found it fascinating to hear all that our District is doing. He mentioned that his district has a Council of Governors, but they do not meet during the conference, nor are the reports so thorough. He added that he is learning a lot.

Invited Comments:

PRIP/Foundation Trustee Chair John Germ

- **PolioPlus:** Wild poliovirus cases remain at historic lows with 6 cases reported in 2021 and 2 cases reported this year. One case was in Afghanistan which held its fifth polio immunization campaign since the change in administration. The other in Pakistan on April 23, which had gone a full year without a reported case. There have been 34 cases of circulating vaccine derived poliovirus this year vs. 60 at the same time last year. The GPEI is launching a new funding plan to support surveillance efforts through 2026 at a cost of \$900M, with Rotary's support of \$150M per year. The current Gates agreement, (2 to1 match) ends in 2023 but a new agreement is underway to run through 2026. A new Polio Plus Society has been established for Rotarians donating \$10.00 monthly through Rotary Direct.
- **Rotary's Response to the conflict in Ukraine:** 'Rotary International stands with the United Nations General Assembly in expressing grave concern at the “ongoing human rights and humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, in particular at the reports of violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law by the Russian Federation.” As a global humanitarian organization, Rotary takes a proactive stance toward peacemaking by addressing the underlying causes of conflict. We support the recent UN General Assembly resolutions calling for an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of Russian military forces from Ukraine. This aligns with Rotary's deep commitment to promoting peace through dialog and conflict resolution. We are working beside our partners in the international relief community to help provide resources to the more than 10 million Ukrainian refugees forced to flee the field of battle.' The spend by date of June 30 for the Disaster Relief Fund earmarked for the 5 surrounded districts supporting refugees has been extended. More than 9.5 million have been raised.

- **Foundation Fundraising:** Annual fund goal for 2021-22: \$125M to date giving: \$95,300; Endowment Fund Giving goal for 2021-22: \$95M, to date giving: \$67.9M; PolioPlus goal for 2021-22: \$150M, to date giving: \$125.7M; other goal for 2021-22: \$40M, to date giving: \$30.4M. Our total foundation goal for this year is \$410M and we currently stand at \$319.3M

John also shared that a proposal will be made to the Board of Directors at the June meeting to assign a trustee to every multi-district PETS and Zone Institutes to emphasize the need for support of the Foundation.

Old Business: None

New Business/Additional Comments/Adjournment:

Bobby Davis shared that the Zone Institute will be held in Chattanooga in the fall.

Cindy thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 10:57 am.

Respectfully Submitted by: Patty Sergeant Daughtrey, Secretary