



Board Meeting Minutes for January 9, 2019

The board meeting of the Schenectady Rotary Club was held at 8:00 am, Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at the First Reformed Church of Schenectady.

Board Members Present: Christopher Henry, Brian Merriam, Deborah O’Connor, Kim Rainey, Sandy Dardanelli, Lisa Jackson, Margaret Holoday, Fred Denefrio, Mac Sudduth, Vladia Boniewski, Mark Juda, Wayne Brule

Board Members Excused: Del Pierce, Bonnie Keller, Deneen Palmateer, Amy Brule, Bill Levering

Guest: Mark Sheehan

Call to Order: President Chris Henry called the meeting to order at 8:04 AM.

Minutes: Minutes of December 2018 were approved as amended.

Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s report was given by Treasurer, Deborah O’Connor.

- NBT Checking \$1,737.37
- NBT Money Market \$33,040.31
- NBT Haiti Savings \$18,711.00

Haiti – payment to Brian Merriam expected 1/11/2019 pending review of receipts.

New report by Class presented to show net effect of fundraising activities.

Mark Sheehan to get final expense number from Schenectady ARC for cost of holiday centerpieces.

Finance committee to be meeting soon to review prior year finances and possible new formats.

Secretary’s Report: Lisa Jackson reported the following for December 2018.

Average attendance for Prior Month: 54.5%

New Members: 0

Terminated Members: 3 [Brett Gatta (work), Sid Ramotar (work), Donald Reid (health)]

Total Membership: 72

Outstanding Dues

Period	Date Billed	Number	Amount Due
January – June 2019	11/15/2018	15	\$1,294.50

Kim Rainey and Mark Juda to follow up with outstanding members. Terminate if unpaid by January 30, 2019.

President’s Report:

The Community Service Grants committee has met and reorganized itself for the coming year. Pat Barney resigned as chair, after many years of dedication. The committee has endorsed Elena Alvarez as the new chair and is committed to meeting and reinvigorating the committee for the coming year. They will reaffirm or establish a procedure and standard for grant applications going forward. Grant requests may be forwarded to Elena for committee consideration.

Club Assembly on January 17 will include an all membership canvas for committee involvement. The five main committee chairs are asked to present and solicit sign-ups. [Membership – Mac Sudduth, Fund Development – Margaret Holoday, Administration – Vladia Boniewski, Service Projects – Del Pierce, International Foundation – Brian Merriam]

Committee structure has been cleaned-up and streamlined.

Curtis Eatman has resigned as Assistant Treasurer citing his new job with the NYS Senate as a time conflict. He does however wish to maintain his membership. The nominating committee has been informed of his resignation and is receiving nominations which they will pursue and report back to the board with their recommendations

Past President's Report:

Mark Juda noted the Past President's met December 26, 2018. The group has agreed to contribute to the centennial clock as a group; a firm financial amount has not been declared yet. The past president's act as mentor to the current president and meet the last Wed of every month at Riccietello's Restaurant.

Committee Reports

Membership:

Chair Mac Sudduth reports that the Membership Committee met last month (December). Discussion points included:

- How to use Journey to Success as a recruiting tool. Public face of program, Facebook page for program
- Reach younger potential members by appealing to the philanthropic nature of the program
- Rewarding and recognizing new member sponsors. Does RI recognize sponsors? Pins?
- Fred Daniels to restart new member barbeque.
- Working on a brochure for potential individual members and corporate members
- Branding – wear Rotary gear when out in public (i.e.: bell ringing, service projects)
- Recruitment and Retention – get new members involved in committees!
- Suggestions: Twice per year set membership orientation dates
- Encourage sign-ups at Club Assembly, January 17, 2019

Fund Development:

No updates

Club Administration:

Vladia reports the Nominations Committee focuses on developing a slate of officers for the upcoming years and awards for current year. The committee will also seek a new assistant treasurer.

Vladia will be leading committee recruitment. A sign-up sheet will be passed out at the January 17th club assembly.

Service Projects:

Wayne Brule reported on the progress of the Vale Park versus I-890 clean up. Schenectady County's contract process changed from two annual cleanups to four annual cleanup days. The Schenectady Rotary Club was not able to perform cleanup in Fall 2018 as a result of the contract change. President Chris explored partnership with Schenectady East Rotary Club, but they could not commit.

Discussion:

Wayne suggested replacing the I-890 community project with Vale Park cleanup instead. The City of Schenectady has not been approached yet for approval. Will have to determine best dates to benefit park. Note: The Vale Park Committee is run by Carmel Patrick and Leesa Perazzo, both current Schenectady Rotarians. Suggestion made to do I-890 clean up on a Thursday and Saturday to make the four days – or to try to challenge the four-day rule.

A **motion** has been made to support the efforts to move the community cleanup project to Vale park rather than I-890.

APPROVED

Many thanks to Wayne for his continued efforts on this committee.

Update: The Gateway Park renovations are underway, concrete slab complete, construction continues, and it is moving along.

Mark Sheehan provided the following updates.

Journey to Success workshops and experiences planned for students:

- January 30, 2 - 3:30pm Job Applications with Heather Airy of SCAP
- February 27, 2 – 3:30pm – Interview Presentation
- March – Possible field trip to Ballston Spa National Bank for mock interviews
- April – Job Fair/Opportunities Day with the EOC

Next committee meeting January 25th at 10am at SCLA 80 Oakwood Avenue (Rotary participation encouraged)

Interact Club to start next month at SCLA – seeking a club chair.

Past President Ring – Mark is in position of an old ring from a Past President. Perhaps auction at District Conference? Fundraising opportunity. Vladia to get appraisal of the ring.

Mother's Day fundraiser in May 2019 – more info to follow

Rotary-Steiner Award – Mark dropped of a three-inch section of the trolley car rail to Joe Guidarelli who kindly agreed to replicate the award.

Video editing of member testimonials? Mark to put videos on USB, the club is tasked with finding a video editor. No budget for editing. Possible student intern?

Salvation Army Bell Ringing was a success this year. The club completed six days of bell ringing and has been informed that the Salvation Army met their \$120,000 annual goal. Thanks to all the members for their dedication and assistance.

Rotary International:

Brian Meriam stated there are no new reports. The International Committee has a meeting planned next week. The next trip to Haiti is planned for March 2019.

Unfinished Business:

N/A

New Business:

President Chris will not be able to attend Rotary meeting for the next three weeks due to work commitments. Mac and Margaret to substitute at meetings.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Chris Henry at 9:11 AM.

Submitted by: Lisa Jackson, Secretary