

Rotary District 7505 e-Club

March 8, 2021

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by President Van Stine.

Present: Michael Van Stine-President  
Manuel Nunez-Treasurer  
David Winter-Secretary

Pres V. asked that we approve minutes from February 8<sup>th</sup> and they were approved unanimously.

Pres V started by thanking everyone for their understanding while he was hospitalized for some leg issues sustained after serious fall. He said he is still in some continued pain in standing or sitting upright for extended periods but that he felt it was important for us to meet otherwise we would have gone more than a month without meeting. He just asked kindly to keep this meeting a bit shorter than usual.

Pres V provided a few updates. First, that he did attend all three PETS sessions from February 25-27. He had asked special permission from Melanie that he could turn off the meeting camera and attend while lying in bed. Indeed, he reported that the sessions were excellent, and he was glad to have been able to be there. There were many guest speakers including Shekhar Mehta, incoming RI President for 2021-2022; Chris Potter, Lt. Governor Elect; Dave Herndon who shared a new Rotary video brief (that he thinks we should have on our new website); Bill Tobin from ShelterBox; Paul Quintavalla and Jennifer Jones from Ontario among others. There were many sessions on club leadership strategies, the Rotary Foundation and Rotary International's Public Image and Branding campaign. If anyone is interested, all training materials used in all the sessions is here: <http://www.mapets.org/training-material/>

Pres V reported that he was delayed in sending the change of Rotary club name from to Secretary Dave because of his health delays but that he would get this to him and then to RI in the next few days. He had updated a count of new Rotarians who wished to be sponsored as new members of the club once it is re-certified and there are exactly 30 new member applicants in total. They come from all walks of life from public service and the private sector, entrepreneurs and professionals and all people who he feels will be exemplary Rotarians. He said he is planning to introduce nominees in stages at upcoming meetings and forego any guest speakers for the remainder of the Rotary year so all new and older members can just get to know one another as the club votes on new members adds every other week. The goal will be to have everyone added by May 30<sup>th</sup> so we can have all participate in the Annual Fund drive and in planning a generalized strategic plan for the new Rotary year.

On that, Pres V. said that one of the PETS speakers was from the lead promotional items company that RI uses – Russell Hampton – and that he would like to be a bit more welcoming to the new members slated to join. He has identified a preferred new member packet that includes a new member certificate,

RI lapel pin, 4-Way Test coin, Rotary Wheel decal, a new member booklet, Object of Rotary wallet card and a nice folder. The cost from them is \$8.25 each when ordering more than 25. Added to that, he would like to get next year's new RI theme lapel pin w/a hand holding the globe which are \$1/ea. If we buy 50. So, he asked for authorization to spend \$297.50 before tax and shipping. Sec. Dave said he felt that Pres V. should have the authority to make such expenditure decisions on his own; Pres V. said he felt more comfortable asking for approval on things like this. All voted in favor.

Pres V. reported that there were still delays in purchasing the new refrigeration unit for food pantry based on their ask. This was because they have still not been able to shed some poor equipment to make the needed space (the pantry is very short on space) as they continue to be inundated with pandemic-related explosion in product and distribution. Pres V. said that he and his wife had gone to the food bank with their truck numerous times filling the truck to capacity to pick up food and that Kathleen donates her time once a week on Wednesdays to food distribution to families. Pres V. assures that we are not in any grant compliance problem in the delay. He is documenting the impact of not having the additional cold storage yet and that this has been done out of emergency necessity and that all will be purchased and delivered with all reporting completed on time. If needed, the unit can be delivered to the SC Foundation's kitchen and could be stored there for supplemental pantry use. The SCF would pay for needed electricity of that happens. But all would prefer not to do that as it would involve moving the freezer twice.

Treasurer Manny provided the Treasurer's Report through February 2021. The report was approved.

Pres V provided more updates on the construction at the Veterans Center. The grand opening is still scheduled for Carlton Rouh's birthday (the Medal of Honor recipient veteran for whom the center is named) on May 11. All are welcome to attend, and arrangements are being made for virtual attendance for those at a distance.

Everyone wished everyone a productive and safe next two weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.