**Minutes for the Business Session at the 2017 District Conference**

**The Lodge of Four Seasons**

**October 28, 2017**

District Governor Melvin Platt opened the meeting and introduced Steven Montgomery, District Treasurer, to review the 2016-17 District budget. A copy of the financial report ~~budget~~ was distributed among all those present. Montgomery prefaced his remarks on the budget as a whole by noting that the District budget was comprised of three parts: District Operation, Rotary Youth Exchange, and the Rotary Foundation Grants, and that these statements reflect the actual cash for which district personnel had fiduciary responsibility. They do not include District Designated Funds (DDF) not received in cash but for which the District has the ability to allocate. The Georgia Mother-Baby project has $42,228 of restricted assets that have not yet been spent. Montgomery reminded club presidents that the IRS 990 form must be files no later than November 15. An auditor has reviewed the budget and found that all is in order.

Governor Platt invited a motion from the floor to accept the report of the District Treasurer. Rowland Geddie moved and Dan Festa seconded a motion to accept the report. Hearing no discussion, a voice vote was called. The report was accepted and approved unanimously without dissent.

PDG Duane Sterling was asked to present a summary of the four proposals submitted by Past Rotary International President for possible consideration at the 2019 Council on Legislation (attached proposals). Sterling summarized each of the following proposals: 1) to simplify the replacement of an RI President-Elect who is Unable to Serve; 2) to eliminate the unneeded confirmation of Officer selections at International Conventions; 3) to remove the provision for special assemblies at the International Conventions; and 4) to reduce the number of delegates and the expense of the Council on Legislation.

After summarizing each proposal, Sterling invited comment and questions from the floor. There was no discussion or comments on the first proposal. Regarding the second proposal, Larry Biron asked who would be the delegate to the 2019 Council of Legislation. Sterling answered that Raymond Plue had been selected and asked Raymond to stand. Biron complained that the same people keep on representing the District. Sterling stated that Plue will serve his second term and will not be able to serve more than two terms.

There was no discussion on the third proposal.

Sterling next presented information about the fourth proposal, which seeks to reduce the number of delegates to the Council on Legislation and save money,

Christopher White agreed with attempt to save money and reduce overhead of the COL. However, he objected to pairing districts and giving each pair one vote. He was not happy that not every district would have a vote or a voice. He stated that the proposed solution is problematic when two districts have opposing viewpoints, but only one vote can be cast on each piece of legislation. White gave two suggestions that save money but still allow each district to have a voice: first, that COL delegates would vote electronically from home on the proposals that are submitted, reducing airfare and hotel expenses to zero. Second, that the council meet once every five years to spread the expense over a greater period; perhaps an electronic meeting could happen once every 2.5 years to tend to matters of urgency.

A second Rotarian asked about the size and method of becoming the district delegate to the COL. Raymond Plue answered that the size of COL is approximately 500 people, a committee chose him as the current COL district 6080 delegate, after he submitted an application to the position. All Past District Governors are eligible to apply for consideration.

A vote involving a show of hands was taken on the proposal as presented. The votes that were counted by Susan Haralson, Jackie Howard, and Paul Reinert were inconclusive. Governor Platt asked for a recount with a show of hands that produced 33 and 34 in favor and 26 to 30 against by those counting. Even though the second vote tally differed among those counting votes, the difference between those in favor and those opposed was sufficient to declare that the proposal was approved.

Governor Platt summarized the proposed District bylaw change (attached) that provides for partial reimbursement of expenses for the District Governor Nominee Designate to attend a Zone training event, PETS/SETS, and the District Conference. Dan Festa moved approval, which was seconded by Rita Esterly. Someone asked how much would reimbursement cost? Governor Platt stated that the amount cannot be determined since the District Finance Committee can establish a limit on the amount to be reimbursed. Another question: How much does it cost to attend these three events? The answer was $3,000-$5,000 including travel, lodging, registration, and food. After a few moments of silence, Governor Platt asked if there was any objection to taking a vote. Hearing none, he asked for a voice vote that was unanimously cast in favor of approval.

Thereafter David Bixler, Immediate Past District Governor, was introduced. He announced those clubs that had attained notable achievements during 2016-17.

Springfield Metro – highest per capita giving to the Annual Fund ($919)

Springfield Sunrise – 2nd highest per capita giving to the Annual Fund ($323)

Jefferson City Evening – 3rd highest per capita giving to the Annual Fund ($293.82)

Belton-Raymore - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Branson Daybreak - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Fulton - 100% TRF Giving

Harrisonville - 100% TRF Giving

Jefferson City Evening - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Springfield Metro – 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Springfield North - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Springfield Sunrise - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Thayer/Mammoth Spring - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

Warrensburg - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

West Plains Sunrise - 100% TRF Giving

Willow Springs - 100% TRF Giving and EREY

(EREY – Every Rotary Every Year)

Thirty-four clubs achieved STAR Club status by contributing at least $100 per capita to the Annual Fund.

The following clubs received Polio Certificates of Appreciation: Branson-Hollister, Columbia Metro, Columbia South, Fulton, Harrisonville, Jefferson City Breakfast, Jefferson City West, Salem, Springfield Metro, Springfield, Springfield North, Springfield Southeast, Springfield Sunrise, Warrensburg.