

Rotary Foundation of Media  
Board Meeting – January 17, 2017

Members present: Govinda Malya, Nancy Geisel, Dennis Slostad, Bryan Messick, Larry Smoose, Courtney Ballauer, George Beatty

Others Present: Gary Zebrowski (Treasurer); Dan Lievens (Club President)

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

**Minutes**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's report was received as presented. Gary noted the financial records have been independently reviewed and that \$18,809.88 is available for grants. Gary also reported that he has received the state certificate renewing our non-profit status. The report was received.

**Global Grant Update**

**Teaching Skills in Development of Learning Abilities in Early Childhood Education, Quito, Ecuador-**

**GG1639740** This global grant was approved by TRF on January 5, 2017. All the required signatures in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) have been completed and it will be submitted to TRF. Govinda will request Gary Zebrowski to write a Rotary Foundation of Media check for \$5,250.00 and send it to TRF as detailed in a prescribed contribution form.

**Global Grant: Microcredit to Tribal Women in La Esperanza, Pedro Moncayo, Ecuador - GG164174** This global grant is in the final stages of approval. The MOU needs to be executed again due to changes in the introduction of new Grant Center Module by TRF in December 2016. The new MOU will be executed by January 20, 2017 and it will be sent to TRF. We anticipate approval of this grant by then end of January 2017.

**Nominating Committee**

Our bylaws specify that elections to the board of the Rotary Foundation of Media occur in March. Towards this end, a nominating committee will be appointed to produce a slate of candidates. Govinda and Courtney are completing their terms, so there are two positions to be filled.

**Public Relations and Visibility Budget line**

Govinda had spoken to two accountants who indicated that it was not appropriate for a non-profit organization to use funds designated for charitable purposes to be used for public relations or community visibility. This issue had also been discussed at the Club board meeting, and the club board of directors felt it was more appropriate that these be club expenses. The issue is determining a source of funds and the amount of the budget. However, this is club business rather than foundation business.

For now, the guidelines for approving RFM grants will remain with the areas of emphasis stated on the application form, with the board recognizing that it may need to have a review as we live into this new one source model.

### **Grant Requests**

- Aquaponics Greenhouse – we received a request from the Elwyn Davidson School for \$623.96 as part of a total project cost of \$1559.60 to provide additional greenhouse lighting for a program that helps 367 students with multi-disabilities to experience hands on education and skills training. The board approved the grant (Bryan Messick/Dennis Slostad).
- Stop Hunger Now – a request for \$1000 for the Penncrest Interact Club to sponsor a Stop Hunger Now project to make 10,000 meals during Penncrest Pride Day. The Interact club will raise an additional \$2000. The board approved the grant. (Courtney Ballauer/Dennis Slostad)
- 2017 Penncrest AM prom – a request for \$1000 to help fund an after prom “safe” party for students. The board agreed that this is a good event and valuable for student safety, but did not agree on whether it met grant guidelines in the five areas of emphasis. The grant was approved with 4-3 split vote.
- Rose Tree Park Concert Festival – a request for \$750. At its December meeting, the board had indicated that this had potential value as a public relations event, but did not meet grant guidelines. Subsequently, at the January meeting of the Club’s Board of Directors they agreed with that understanding and voted to fund a concert sponsorship to help promote our club to the community.
- Veterans’ Legacy – The board deferred a request for \$1000 until the use of our funds can be clarified in the grant proposal. It will be reviewed with the presenter.
- Elwyn – Holding on this request since no specific amount noted and the official grant proposal form has not yet been received.
- Providence Animal Shelter – a request for \$5000 to help fund an additional facility for sheltering the animals cared for by the shelter. The board declined consideration as not meeting criteria in the five areas of emphasis in our grant guidelines.
- Music therapy for Autistic Children – a request for \$1150 to provide financial assistance to an autistic child from a low income family to receive therapy through the MusicWorks Wonders program. This is part of a multi-Rotary Club effort. The board approved the grant (Dennis Slostad/Courney Ballauer).

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: February 21, 2017 9:00 a.m. at Court Diner.**

All requests for grants should include the official proposal form (on the club website and available at club meetings) and sent to [RotaryFoundationofMedia@gmail.com](mailto:RotaryFoundationofMedia@gmail.com)