

# Rotary District 6250 District Advisory Meeting

Saturday, May 17, 2008

Alliant Energy Center, Madison

## **Attending:**

Mary Kessens, District Governor

Tom Marshall, DGE

H. Paul Bergmann, PDG

Bob Boelter, Public Relations Chair

Jim Crubaugh, District Trainer , AG, DGNN

Dean Dickinson, DGN, Annual Program Chair

Deb Johnson, AG

Robert Pulvermacher, Web site Committee

Brad Quarberg, District Secretary

Ed Smith, District Treasurer

Alan Storhschein, AG

Al Steevens, Youth Protection/Incorporation

Judy Levine, Dist YW Chair Elect

Linda Buchs-Hammonds, Asst. Chair D-RYE

Henry Clement, ADG

Phil Willems, ADG

Randy Sproule, PDG/Polio Plus

Scott Porter, Past AG

Sandee Macht, DGSC

Bill Erickson, AG

Heather Dyer, District Admin

## **Welcome from DG Mary Kessens**

### **Treasurer's update – Ed Smith**

- Ed handed out an update of district financial matters
- Total assets are \$210,645.12

### **Public Relations update**

- Bob Boelter handed out results for the ad campaign
- Ads were in two publications for four months in a row
- He will work with Morgan Data to get results of coupons handed in
- He anticipates there may be a similar campaign for next year; RI is putting more money for PR grants
- Bob opened discussion about reaction from current campaign and if we should continue one next year
- Bob discussed working with clubs throughout the district to get information out about the Gates Grant. The idea would be to put a local twist to the international grant.
- Bob discussed a possible district campaign to highlight the Rotary Youth Exchange program. He will work with Judy and Linda to identify students to feature.

## **District Communications**

- DG Mary Kessens summarized the change of district communications and working with Morgan Data.
- Heather discussed three main mediums being used: Web site, Newsletter and e-mail requests. She said it's been a learning year. They currently have about 1,600 e-mail addresses of district Rotarians. She will be working to coordinate e-mail requests more so there aren't so many e-mails. She asked if the district should start a "leadership" letter so all leadership in the district would be informed. There would be a periodic sending of these e-mail blasts.
- Discussion of putting the district's directory online. Bob P. will work with Heather on a proposal for ways to effectively change the directory, allowing online and printed versions.

## **Youth Protection Policy**

- Al Stevens summarized the draft of the district's Youth Protection Policy. It covers all club activities that involve youth, not just the formal Youth Exchange Program.
- The policy will have to be approved by Rotary International. The group has worked with RI to make sure correct language is in the policy.
- Once the policy is approved, the committee will work with implementation. Each club will be asked to identify a youth protection officer. This person will be able to work with the district's youth protection office to ensure that the policy is being properly administered. The committee will try to reach all Rotarians so they are familiar with the policy.
- A hotline has been established for youth to be able to call to leave information about possible abuse.
- General consensus is that the policy is a good one with a different name than "Protection"(maybe assurance) in the title.
- It is hoped that training will be held in the next Rotary year. It will be a long process to get the policy underway, with potential for numerous changes in the policy along the way.
- The committee will fine tune the document with input from today's discussion and will forward to RI for approval.

## **District Incorporation Plan**

- DG Mary Kessens summarized the history of the incorporation plan. Mary Beth Growney Selene and Al Steevens have worked on preparing the proposed document of incorporation. It's an attempt to get the district more organized; it will be a document that can be continuously updated and reviewed. The document is based on another RI district. RI must approve the document. And it must be filed with the state.
- Discussion of the document
  - o Positive points:
    - It's a good idea to have a general annual business meeting.
  - o Things that could be changed:
    - Get rid of "reside in" since some district Rotarians don't reside in the district by are members of a club in the district. (Throughout the document.)
    - Should major voting decisions be at the district conference or the annual meeting.
    - Change registered office to Morgan Data's address, our administrative office.
    - For dues, membership number should come from the district administrative office, instead of RI.
    - Put a deadline for when resolutions are due for the annual meeting.

- Get rid of the line that the annual meeting should be held at the district conference.
- Resolutions should only have to be brought to the board. Delete wording that the advisory council would have to approve.
- Clarification of how to select delegates and voting members. We need to be careful not to alienate big/small clubs. Should there be a vote for a certain number of members? Votes for each club?
- 2.04.3 Clarify or scratch “terms of reference.”
- Should all delegates from the same club have to vote for the same governor nominee?
- 2.04.3 Quorum. Keep one-third of the delegates present representing more than half of the clubs.
- 3.01 strike “residing.”
- 3.02 Board of Directors. Change so all are not district governors. Scratch three past district governors and change to Membership chair, Foundation chair, Secretary and Treasurer and three at-large members who have some type of Rotary leadership.
- 3.07 Delete “district conference.”
- The intent of keeping the Advisory Committee input in district leadership needs to be more prominent.
- There may be too much info in the document that could limit district leadership.

Tom Marshall will appoint a committee to work with district volunteers and Mary Beth and Al to continue discussion of the document.

#### **Finance Committee update**

- Expense reimbursement guidelines have been changed. One change – there will be no direct billing of hotel expenses. Instead, expenses must be paid for by the volunteer and then submitted with a committee chair signature to the district treasurer.
- Expenses for the Rotary year should be in by June 30.
- No refunds if less than 5 days before an event. (Conference, etc.)

#### **Planning for next year-Tom Marshall**

- Governor’s reception will be June 28 in Columbus.
- Club visitation schedule is done and will be put in the newsletter.
- Youth involvement in Rotary will be an emphasis during his year.

#### **Closing**

-DG Mary Kessens thanked all for attending and for their work throughout the year.

**Next meeting:** July 26 meeting has been cancelled. Tom will get a new date out to all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brad Quarberg, District Secretary