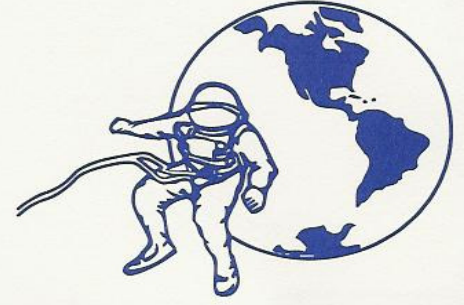


ROTARY CLUB
OF
SPACE CENTER
"Service Above Self"



Minutes of the Board of Directors

December 5, 2006

Members in attendance:

Geoff Atwater, Dick Gregg III, Rafael Lugo, J. B. Fox, Bill Taylor, Scott Rainey, Pam Culpepper, Jerrold Dewease, Art Wood, Mike Cornet, and Mark Humphrey

Members absent:

Mike Hernandez, Tony Bloomfield, Gary Johnson, and Dick Kidder

Visitors:

None

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of Space Center Rotary Club (Club) Board of Director's meeting of November 7, 2006 were approved.

Treasurer's report:

There was no Treasurer's report. The President noted that all outstanding transactions have been entered into the financial accounting system. He also noted some problems with incorrect charges by the bank where the Club's account is kept.

There was a general discussion about making the Club's financial records and the results of the Shrimporee more visual to the membership such as posting on the Website or placing in the Blastoff. The President noted that the financial records for the Rotary year will be provided to the membership.

A. L. Brady has verbally resigned from the Club.

Ladder or Direct Election of Officers

As a follow-up to last month's Board meeting, a general discussion was held regarding the "ladder" process versus an open election for officers. It was generally agreed that the officer position requires knowledge of Rotary and experience in the operations of the Club. Also most preferred that the candidate be a prior Director of the Board. It was further noted that the President should have held another officer position to be better

prepared for the President's position. However, it was recognized that some of the officer positions, particularly the Secretary and Treasurer, are very difficult for some incumbents to handle effectively. Nevertheless, it was pointed out that knowledge in these areas, especially the Treasurer's position, is essential for the President to have. Opinion was split among the Board members who have experienced both election processes as to whether the ladder process was better. The Board noted that the Club's by-laws do not prohibit the open membership election and that the Sergeant-at-Arms position is open to the membership and any member could request to be nominated for any open position.

It was recommended that the Board make the Club members aware of the nominating committee and that they would consider any person for the open positions. Persons nominated for a position should be agreeable for consideration by the committee.

The election for officers and board members is scheduled for January 22, 2007. Dick Gregg III noted that the nominating committee has been established and they will be obtaining candidates for the three director positions vacated at the end of the Rotary year and for the Sergeant-at-Arms position. These positions are for the Rotary year 2007-2008.

Donations:

The Club sent \$5,000 to the Pass Christian Rotary Club which was approved at the September Board meeting to assist the rebuilding of the area due to the destruction caused by hurricane Katrina. The club has three matching grants from Rotary International and will apply the payment toward rebuilding the library.

The Board approved the motion to commit \$2,500 to Casa do los Ninos Barbara Bush project – a state of the art literacy center that will be part of major expansion for the Community Family Center for the East End in Houston. The District has pledged \$25,000 to the project. The money will be borrowed from the International Service A account until all of the Shrimporee funds are reconciled.

The Club will give \$1,000 to the Boy Scout Troop 216 for their "service above self" volunteer work during the 2006 Shrimporee. The donation will be given to the Troop leader at a Club meeting. It was suggested that the Board visit a troop meeting and express its appreciation for their service.

Shrimporee:

Mike Hernandez and Brian Ellis will co-chair the 2007 Shrimporee. Scott Rainey brought up the need to formalize requiring the President-elect of the Board to be the chair of the Shrimporee. The President noted that this was part of a larger effort to look at improving the fundraiser.

New Business:

Scott Rainey presented an idea for a potential project for the Club in Carbonera, Mexico, an impoverished fishing village 90 miles south of Brownsville and about 20 miles east of San Fernando. Builders Without Borders and the Friendswood Methodist church are involved with humanitarian efforts in the village. One of the crucial needs is potable water. Currently water is transported into the area and is brackish, even the underground water is brackish. The volunteers are using a reverse osmosis process to make their water drinkable. This gave Scott the idea of an enterprise set up with the high school students selling potable water to the surrounding area. A reverse osmosis process could be used to make the water drinkable and a well could be drilled to provide the supply water. The thought is to make the area self-sufficient in regard to potable water and to begin developing the entrepreneurial skills of the local residents in order to improve their quality of life which is consistent with the work of the other volunteer groups there. Scott asked the Board to consider the proposal and offer any suggestions regarding the matter.

Old Business:

The President reminded the Board of the articles that each member is to write for the Club's newsletter, Blastoff.

Director Reports:

Membership (Bill Taylor) – The registration desk for the Club meetings is well staffed and the procedure has been worked out. Members are being processed quickly and good records are being maintained. The backlog for the Red Badgers has essentially been eliminated and the orientation for the three approved new members is in the work.

Public Relations (Scott Rainey) – A survey request on PR have been received from Rotary International to assess the effectiveness of the PR program. PR is receiving a strong focus by Rotary International. There is a need for more space on the Web-site and Scott requested that back copies of the Blastoff be removed before additional space may be purchased.

Club Service (Mark Humphrey) – The history committee is beginning to review the archives and will sort and catalogue the information. About 80% of the Club's member rooster has been prepared. No report on Golf fellowship.

Grants (Mike Cornett) – Continuing to look for a person to head up the Black Tie fundraiser. Also continues to work on a grant associated with the Armand Bayou Nature Center.

Community Service A (Tony Bloomfield) - Not present

Community Service B (Pam Culpepper) – A third round of immunizations will be given under the Blane Grant Immunization project, the Scholarship Committee is working on identifying worthy candidates, and no report on the Senior Citizen committee.

International Service A (Jerrold Dewease) – The format for the Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) Banner has been solidified with the decision to have all of the PHF's on the list. The number will be about 280. Two banners will be required. A freshman at John Hopkins University is applying for the 2008-2009 academic year Ambassadorial Scholarship.

International Service B (Dick Kidder) – Not present

Vocational Service (Art Wood) – The Excellence in Education program and the Excellence in Law Enforcement (fireman this year) will be starting up after the first of the year. Both are processing well.

Other:

Pam Culpepper reported that Micki Czarmik had a heart attack last week and is now in intensive care at St. Luke's. Jennifer Keller is acting as Micki's advocate. Pam will report when Micki will be able to receive visitors so that an announcement can be made to the membership.

A general discussion was held on how to improve communications with Bay Oaks CC after the difficulty encountered in notifying the membership of yesterday's canceled meeting. Dick Gregg III took the action to provide list of contact numbers to Bay Oaks.

Upcoming Events

January-February, TBD – Special Board Meeting midyear status review
Monday, February 12, 2007 – D. G. Suzi Howe official visit to SCRC
February-March 2007 - Boots and Black Tie Ball
Friday, April 20, 2007 - RNASA Banquet and Awards Ceremony
April 26-29, 2007 - District 5890 Conference in Puerto Vallarta

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:15 am.

The next regular SCRC board meeting will be on held on Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 7 am at Bay Oaks Country Club.

Respectfully submitted:

Prepared by Jerrold Dewease for
Miguel A. Hernandez, Jr., Secretary