Minutes

Merced Sunrise Rotary

Board Meeting of March 16, 2016

Meeting convened at 5:38 PM

Members Present: Cathy Paskin, Rich Miller, Galen Chastain, Bob Casey, Mark Lutz, Tim O’Neill, Theresa Cesar, Dortha Chu

Members Absent: Stuart Rawling, Betsy Donovan, Mike Cuchna

Guests Present: Bud Gantney, Ross Simonet, Nancy Edmiston

Approval of Agenda: M/S/C Bob/Theresa

Approval of Minutes of: M/S/C Theresa/Rich

Leadership Reports

**President:** Cathy asked who was going to the RI convention. Apparently John Derby plans to go and Bob Casey is exploring options and may also attend. Cathy pointed out that in order to qualify for a Presidential Citation, each Director must have his/her report in to the District by February 24. Concerning FOH grant requests, Ross recited the ones he had thus far received. At the appropriate time, Ross will hand them off to the FOH Funding Committee for its action. Discussion followed. Rich moved, Tim seconded and motion carried that the honor flight money be taken from the $30,000, not from the $10,000. Additional discussion followed regarding whether we should wait for a request. No resolution to this matter. Tim will check with appropriate parties to determine if honor flights are to be continued. Regarding request from the Rose Bowl committee, Rich moved, Bob seconded and motion carried that we donate $100. When asked from where the money was coming, Theresa said that there was money in the budget that could be used for that purpose.

Rich requested to discuss Veterans Boulevard. He reported that he had talked to City Councilman Mike Murphy who directed him to Dave Gonsalves and Kim Espinoza with whom he had a discussion. Mr. Gonsalves was very supportive of the concept. While Bellevue would the easiest, crossing jurisdiction would pose a challenge, so M street will be the focus. Rich spent considerable time explaining the extensive research he has done and outlined the various hurdles we would have to cross before Veterans’ Boulevard would come to fruition. Some money would be required, but quantity is unknown right now. Tim suggested that as a quid pro quo for our monetary contribution we ask that a rotary wheel be placed on the new street signs. The next step in the process is to form a steering committee and that said committee have wide representation from local service club, VFW, American Legion, etc. Rich stressed that as we go down this path, we must make every effort to keep the City Council informed. Ross mentioned that we need to determine if there are any historical sites enroute for which an address change might be prohibited. Cathy will present this concept at the next Area 8 Presidents’ meeting.

Cathy read a letter from Stuart regarding District 5220’s proposal to create a separate directorship for Marketing.

P**resident-Elect:** Bob reported on shrimp feed and opined that it was a successful event. After a few critical remarks from board members, Tim suggested that a post mortem committee be convened at another time, that board members should not have the final word in critiquing the feed. Other discussion followed. Galen shared income report for ticket, donations and banner sales. Bob announced his Board members as follows: Community Service, Dortha Chu, International Service, Doug Forte, Club Service, Mike Cuchna, Youth Services, Butch Hughes, Vocational Service, Donald Barclay, Foundation, Theresa Cesar. Extensive discussion followed concerning how to fill position vacated by Betsy Donovan. Rich agreed to form and chair a committee to recruit Betsy’s replacement. M/S/C Tim, Theresa; Bob Casey, Tim O’Neill and Galen Chastain volunteered to serve on the search committee.

**Vice President:** No report

**Treasurer:** Rich reported that there were no changes in previous reports.

**Secretary:** Galen reported on estimated revenue from ticket sales, banner sales and donations for raffle prizes at the Shrimp Feed and suggested ways of improving how we handle Will Call tickets.

**Activity Reports**

**Community:** no report

**Vocational:** Tim announced great visit at Merced Screw that Bud was instrumental in setting up. Bob opined that this was the best year for vocational service events since he has been in club. Tim announced one more vocational event on June 10 at Kellog Supply On May 20, we will have our annual scholarship program for Merced College at which we will award to two worthy students technical equipment valued at $500 each. Tim announced that Steve Benner has set up a Giant’s day game for Family of Rotary on July 9th. Tim proposed a new aspect to the Historical Flag Display Sponsorship Category for the 2016 Field of Honor. At this point his intention is to enlist the support of the Merced School Employees Federal Credit Union for a donation of $3,500. The concept is to transport students from the Merced City School District to view and learn some American history while at the historical flag display. The estimated cost for this is $2,100 thereby netting us approximately $1,400 while benefiting many local students. M/S/C Tim, Bob

**International:** Theresa reported that the WAPI workshop will be at her house this Saturday where there will be more students than Rotarians. On April 14, “Every Last Child” will be shown at the Merced Theatre. A home will be needed for boarding that night. Flyers being printed for this event, a sample of which Theresa displayed. She reported that $3,886 is coming back this year for DDF. Theresa had additional remarks regarding global grant constraints as we transition from Nicaragua to Uganda.

**Club:** No Report

**Youth:** The Hall of Fame event sponsored by the Merced Quarterback Club will be held Saturday, March 19. Our club has purchased a full table for the event. Bob Casey announced that he still has a couple to tickets available. Mark also announced that the essays from the students vying for the three scholarships we are awarding at Merced College must be received by March 30.

**Foundation Update:**  Theresa pointed out that global grants depend on contributions for the foundation. Bob said district is slowly sinking insofar as its aggregate amount of contributions to the Foundation. He announced that we peaked in Mike Altomare’s year as president and have been sliding down since then.

Next Meeting Date: April 6th

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 M/S/ C Theresa, Bob

Respectfully Submitted,

Galen Chastain

Secretary