

Rotary



**Rotary Club of Merced Sunrise &
Merced Sunrise Rotary Club Charity
Zone 26, District 5220, Area 8, Club 22798
PO Box 3262 Merced, California 95344
www.mercedsunriserotary.org**

Date: January 16, 2018
Time: 5:30PM
Location: Whitegate Drive, Merced
Roll Call:

Officer	Title/Charge	Present	Absent
Mike Altomare	President	X	
Mike Cuchna	President Elect	X	
Pope Lawrence	Vice President	X	
Bob Casey	Past President		X
Eric Moore	Secretary	X	
Theresa Cesar	Treasurer	X	
Director			
Ruth Alejo	Community	X	
Donald Barclay	Vocational	X	
Regina Cherf	Club	X	
Douglas Forte	International		X
Butch Hughes	Youth	X	
Chair			
Alan Arnold	Membership		X
Frank Reed	Foundation		X

Guests: NA

Reference: General Monthly Board Meeting

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Mike A.
- 2. Roll Call:** As listed above.
- 3. Approval of Agenda:** M/S/C, Pope, Butch, Aye.
- 4. Approval December 18, 2017 Board Minutes:** M/S/C, Mike C, Pope, Aye.

5. Leadership Reports.

A. President.

1. **Club Competition/District Awards.** Mike A wanted the Club to think of the March deadline for the District Awards. Information is located at www.rotary5220.org.
2. **Public Relations.** Mike A asked prospective members Linda and Lauren to address a future PR newsletter for Area and District consumption.
3. **Human Trafficking.** Mike A and Doug will attend a Without Permission fundraiser and organize a meeting to see how the Club can address this serious issue.
4. **Membership.** Mike A stated the Club will retain Dortha and continues to work on former members, like Norm, to return. The Vocational Membership is finalized.
5. **Budgets.** Mike A wants to write checks mid-year to keep program and event funding apace, or for Directors to offer creative and insightful alternatives.

B. Treasurer.

1. **Treasurer's Report.** No Report.
2. **Unpaid Dues.** Theresa is invoicing aged accounts and expanding use of electronic payment systems enhancing collections. Pope will help with past-due accounts as well.
3. **RI Dues.** Charged semi-annual RI Dues was higher than budgeted. It is suspected RI charged a new \$9.50/member fee for RYLA activities. More information is forthcoming, but a general annual \$900 increase may be necessary going forward.

C. Secretary.

1. **New Members Nomination.** After the formal adoption of the Vocational Membership, Eric nominated Linda Clinton and Lauren Elliott for Board consideration under Article 13, Section 3 of Club Bylaws. M/S/C Eric/Pope/Aye.
2. **Constitution and Bylaws Amendments.** Eric circulated proposed amendments for Email Voting and certain minor RI annual updates to the Club Constitution and Bylaws. Email voting is per existing RI procedures and does not replace regular meetings. The primary use of Email Voting is to expedite membership issues and enhance Club service. The Board approved for final Club approval per Article 16. M/S/C Eric/Pope/Aye.

D. Immediate Past President.

1. **Tree Project.** Mike A relayed that Bob is moving forward with this Presidential directive.

E. President Elect.

1. **Shrimp Feed.** Mike C stated planning is apace for the March 17, 2018 event. A meeting is scheduled for January 18.

- F. **Vice President.** Pope is actively filling breakfast meeting speakers. Pope is also chasing interesting new members.
- G. **Club Service.** Gina is evaluating pending Fellowship events and incorporating new things for new members. The Merced Symphony is a terrific option for new opportunities going forward. With respect to “at-risk members,” Eric will use attendance records to identify missing members for retention purposes. Gina had a question about Field of Honor grant process. The Club website handles all grant requests.
- H. **International Service.** In Doug's absence, Mike A gave a summary on the Club's current international grants intention based upon recent District communication. After some consideration, it seems the Club's Uganda Water Well Project is suspended pending better communication and sustainable information. As a replacement, Doug intended to direct funds toward a Madera-based “water project.” That project became fully funded and the funds were then considered for a “cleft-palette project.” Theresa mentioned that she is talking to the District about including her on-going Somoto, Nicaragua-Hearts of Fire non-profit project for future Rotary international grant eligibility.
- I. **Youth Service.** Butch is working with Mike A to obtain annual grants. Speech Contest is in process. The Sports Complex matter is pending with Mike A and Butch. Ruth mentioned that Atwater T-ball teams may need financial support to implement coaches' Live Scan requirements, or Club members can obtain Live Scan solutions as drivers at the next District Assembly.
- J. **Vocational Service.** Donald has a tour of the new Merced HS Gym scheduled for March 9. Service Awards nominations deadlines are scheduled for the third week of February. Mike A wanted to mention the value of Mike C's recent Excel Training Classes.
- K. **Community Service.**
1. **Love, Inc. Granting.** Based upon recent changes, the interest exists to support Love, Inc. using the previously budgeted Welcome Sign funds that will not likely be used this fiscal year. The board approved the granting of \$1,000 to Love, Inc. M/S/C Ruth/Gina/Aye.
- L. **Ad hoc Charitable Projects.**
1. **Sports Complex.** Eric emphasized that as a Parks and Rec Commissioner, he was getting requests from south-side residents about the condition of the Sports Complex and the future expansion of the Soccer Complex at Community Park 42 (CP-42 @ Mission & Tyler). The Club so far arranged for over \$100,000 in improvements to be made to area parks, but that the City has so far turned-down the financial support and has been unwilling to disgorge a “scope of work” to area contractors. The matter is “on hold” until such time as Councilman Josh Pedrozo navigates the City's intention. Mike C and Pope compared the Club's intention to improve the City to the prior success of renaming of M Street to Veterans Blvd and wondered how to address the City publicly going forward. The Club will draft a letter to the City

on various points to move forward in a positive direction on behalf of larger public interests. Mike A and Butch will continue to lead this endeavor.

6. **Next Meeting Date:** TBA

7. **Meeting adjourned:** 6:53 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

/Eric A. Moore/

Secretary

February 4, 2018