

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: March 20, 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, Mike C/Mike A/Aye.
- 4. Approval of February 13, 2018 Board Minutes:** M/S/C, Mike C/Eric/Aye.

5. Leadership Reports.

A. President.

1. **Club Competition/District Awards.** Final submissions were complete March 15. Mike A had some discussion with District, who is considering eliminating this opaque event due to dwindling participation. Aside from “bragging rights” there is little reward for “winning” let alone documenting any club's performance on the District level.
2. **Human Trafficking.** Mike A and Doug are consolidating local efforts with a motivated group of information volunteers. This is in concert with law enforcement and Without Permission. More information is forthcoming.
3. **Membership.** Mike A stated Richard will be leaving the Club as he retires and moves away. Dan may also leave. The Club needs to be in a constant state of recruiting – emphasizing FOH and Shrimp Feed as recruiting events. Don had some good ideas about recruiting for next Shrimp Feed.
4. **Shakespeare in Yosemite Grant Request.** The Downtown Club requested the three Merced clubs join together to support UC Merced effort to send 100 students to the annual event. The \$5,000 sponsorship will be split three-ways for \$1,670. UC provided a two-page sponsor information. The Board discussed and approved the request. M/S/C, Mike C/Gina/Aye. Mike A will further poll the Club for seven days to ensure there is no further issue on this non-budgeted item. It is believed that both Youth and Community Service have the funds to support this ad hoc request.

B. Treasurer.

1. **Treasurer's Report.** Submitted.
2. **Dues.** Theresa is invoicing for the April 1 payment period.

C. Secretary.

1. **Updated Bylaws.** At the February 13 Board meeting, the Board voted to eliminate the cost of meals payable by approved Leave of Absence Members. Eric presented the Board with amended Bylaws language to Article 6 for final comments. Because dues are the exclusive purview of the Board, a general Club vote was unnecessary. The updated Bylaws are posted on the Club website.
2. **Presidential Citation.** Eric is moving forward with entering specific service project information into the RI Club Central database. This is the main repository for the Club's efforts and the mechanism to achieve the award. These metrics intersect with the Club's official Roster and annual Giving. The deadline is June 30. Eric hopes to have an electronic draft for Mike A review by April. The main issue will be having one net new member by June 30 and a 10% increase in Giving.

D. Immediate Past President.

1. **Tree Project.** Mike A relayed that Bob is moving forward with this Presidential directive. April 22 is a working target date pending location.

E. **President Elect.**

1. **Shrimp Feed.** Mike C is settling accounts at the end of March. Mike C will also reach-out to Members to understand what can improve.
2. **New Audio System/Podium.** Mike C is solving certain Club meeting presentation issues. He thinks investing in a mobile podium and wireless audio system will enhance the Club's video investments at Paul's Place. More information is forthcoming, but the central goal is to remove the current podium/table/power cord issues and free-up space to make a better meeting. Mike thinks the cost will be between \$1,500 and \$2,100.

F. **Vice President.** Pope is actively filling six remaining breakfast meetings with speakers. Mike A spoke about the election season and certain speakers may be in contested campaigning. The Club needs to remain impartial in appearance and fact.

G. **Club Service.**

1. **Thank G_d the Shrimp Feed is Over Party.** Gina has April 7 at Mike A home scheduled.
2. **Mentors.** Mike A wants Club Service to organize a cogent method to mentor new Members with Past Presidents. The idea is to educate new Members in Rotary jargon, training, schedules and opportunities.

H. **International Service.**

1. In Doug's absence, Theresa updated the Club on her Somoto Nicaragua project and the potential to craft it into a Rotary Global Grant in 2020 with the support of the District. Theresa and Doug will be reporting back on this progress after Theresa's April trip attended by Bruce and Ruth, Dick Wyatt from Madera Rotary (who historically guided our international efforts) and Merced Mayor Mike Murphy.

I. **Youth Service.** Butch reported two scholarships are set for May. RYLA is planned to support six students. FFA is an emerging source for great leaders and projects. The Speech Contest was a great success. Butch is still working to improve area parks next FY.

J. **Vocational Service.** Donald has a tour of Laird Manufacturing (cattle feeding equipment) scheduled for June 15. The Club is also expanding its relationship with UC Merced Venture Lab and may hold an open house or mentor exercise with their affiliates. Mike A is talking with Kurt about MUHSD Vocational opportunities in the next year. Mike C has a working relationship with the new Dean of Merced College Vocational Instruction and a plan, talk and Club support is forthcoming. The Club seeks to expand support to more diverse vocations.

K. **Community Service.**

1. **FOH Yosemite Veteran Retreat Grant.** In Ruth's absence, Mike A wanted to obtain a formal grant proposal on the subject project. The funds are available, the Club just needs a cogent plan from the stakeholders. Mike C will try to obtain a formal response from the principals on the original project.

2. **Special Olympics.** Theresa stated the upcoming Olympics on May 5 will need volunteers. \$1,000 is already budgeted.
3. **Fair Grounds Kitchen Upgrade.** Pope suggested that the Fair Grounds facilities need upgrade/repair. Since the Club uses the kitchen/hall so successfully the Club could explore developing an improvement plan with other organizations and the County.
4. **Mariposa Yosemite Rotary Art and Wine Festival.** The Mariposa Club requested Merced Sunrise participate at their May 26 event. The Club could use its and Member wine stores to fund-raise or support other efforts. Mike A will make an announcement at the next meeting. The Club would work (purchase?) a booth if enough Members go. This is an excellent fellowship opportunity as well.

L. **Ad hoc Charitable Projects.**

1. No report

6. **Next Meeting Date:** TBA

7. **Meeting adjourned:** 7:02 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

/Eric A. Moore/

Secretary

March 28, 2018