

# Rotary



## Merced Sunrise Rotary Club & Charity Zone 26, Area 8, District 5220, Club 22798 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** April 24, 2017  
**Time:** 5:30PM  
**Location:** 5671 Carmela Court, Merced  
**Members Present:** Rich Miller (T), Bob Casey (P), Mike Altomare (PE), Mike Cuchna (VP), Eric Moore (S), Douglas Forte (International Service Director), Donald Barclay (Vocational Service Director), Regina Cherf (Club Service Director)  
**Members Absent:** Cathy Paskin (IPP), Butch Hughes (Youth Service Director), Steve Benner (Community Service Director)  
**Guests:** Frank Reed (Foundation Chair)  
**Reference:** General Monthly Board Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Bob.
2. **Roll Call:** As listed above.
3. **Approval of Agenda (attached):** M/S/C Mike C, Doug, Aye.
4. **Approval March 22, 2017 Board Minutes:** M/S/C, Doug, Mike A, Aye.
5. **Leadership Reports**
  - A. **President.**
    1. **District Conference.** The 2017 District Conference will be held April 28-30 at Harrah's Lake Tahoe at each Rotarian's expense. The Club anticipates 10 members attending.
    2. **District Leadership Training.** The May 20 meeting is coming up at Golden Valley HS. All members are encouraged to attend. The Club will donate eight cases of water to the event and send at least five members.
  - B. **President-Elect.**
    1. **Next Fiscal Year Budget & Officers.** Mike A has a preliminary budget finalized, but still needs to meet with Donald and Butch for next year planning. Vice President still requires finalization.
    2. **New Projects.** Mike A is encouraging new projects from Club directors. The Club and community are constantly changing and Rotary needs to be adept in addressing needs with new flexible projects. June 1 is a working deadline for next FY.

3. **Public Relations.** Rich mentioned that the Merced County Board of Supervisors conduct an annual recognition of area service clubs/volunteers. Upon review, it seems the Club (and Rotary in general) is not represented in this exercise. The Club shall review the steps necessary to participate and otherwise expand its public relations image in the coming year.
4. **Organization.** Mike A is formulating a org-chart so that members and officers can better understand their roles and direct reports. Revenue generating events like Field of Honor require additional planning and execution inside the Community Avenue of Service, but also important decision making for the spending of proceeds. Other key positions in the Club are subordinate to certain Club directors, creating a hierarchy, but not readily understood by all. Not every decision impacting the Club requires formal board approval. As such, the Club will formalize organization in the coming year to expedite decision making.

**C. Vice President.**

1. **Meeting Programs.** Mike C continues to fill the Club meeting program at an amazing rate and value through June 2017.
2. **Paul's Place AV System.** The Club purchased and installed three monitors over the last months. The final monitor will be fully functional in the near future all with state-of-the-art data connections.
3. **Field of Honor Mini-Grants.** The Club has the capacity to issue \$1,000 min-grants, per the FOH website for first responder and veteran affairs. The Club shall reach out to regional stakeholders through Ross and others to find qualified grantees. Additionally, the Club should also obtain a statement from prior grantees to ensure the monies were well placed and if any changes are necessary with this grant program.
4. **New Vice President Search.** The Club continues to search for a replacement for Mike C for next year.

**D. Treasurer.**

1. **Financial Report.** Rich presented a fiscal year-to-date budget and actual Income Statement and Balance Sheet for both the Club and Charity. The Board and Club members are encouraged to ask questions at any time.

**E. Secretary.**

1. **Nomination of Betsy Donovan for Honorary Membership.** Eric M suggested Betsy be nominated for Honorary membership. The board discussed the history and merits and approved based upon Betsy's acceptance. Bob will speak to Betsy in the near future. Betsy formally left active membership in March. M/S/C Rich, Bob, Aye.
2. **Charity Bylaws.** There was a discussion on Charity Bylaws. The perception is Club board members are also Charity trustees.

## 6. Activity Reports

### A. Club Service/Administration.

1. **Academic Scholarships.** Bob and Butch selected three and two \$500 scholarship “winners” respectively this year. Gina had Bob select three students from the RYLA pool of applicants. Butch offered two students from his Youth Service directorship. The Club can fund \$2,500 this year. After careful consideration, the Club will stay with its normal practice of choosing from RYLA applicants only – splitting the \$2,500 among three RYLA applicants. A more formal scholarship application may be necessary going forward that defines and expands academic/athletics/service and broadens the applicant pool into segments. Alternatively, scholarships might be defined/divided by the five Rotary Avenues of Service.

### B. Community Service.

1. **New Beginnings Grant.** Steve B (absent) received a request from New Beginnings for Merced County Animals. The organization uses proceeds to transport abandoned/abused animals to new homes out of the area. This specific program was not previously budgeted and Steve B is a new mid-year director. However, the Club has the capacity to support this request under the existing unspent (\$3,500) Community Service budget. After consideration, the board approved \$1,000 for Steve B to move forward to support this new program. M/S/C Mike A, Bob, Aye. Rich Abstained.

### C. Vocational Service.

1. **Vocational Trips.** Donald arranged a tour of UC Merced facilities for May 19. The Merced College vocational scholarship/site visit is all squared away for April 28.
2. **Inspirational 3 Minutes.** This well received Club program continues.

### D. International Service.

1. **Uganda Water Well Project.** Doug has been in contact with Moses and Sophie (RI Uganda Area President). Responses currently take about 10 days. The subject well is scheduled to begin drilling with an unknown date.
2. **Future International Service Travel.** Rich made a motion that Doug be given financial support (\$2,000-\$3,000) to travel to Uganda next year and that International Service directors also be encouraged to travel internationally to expand on these kinds of sustainable projects. M/S/C Rich, Mike A, Aye. (This item is amended to reflect the intention of the Club to budget future international travel.)

**E. Youth Service.**

1. **No Report.**

**F. Membership Update.**

1. **No Report.**

**G. Foundation Update.**

1. **100% Paul Harris Society Club.** The Merced Sunrise Rotary Club is an official 100% Paul Harris Society Club thanks entirely to Frank's special efforts and accrued Club points. It is a remarkable and generous achievement for the Club and District. A formal announcement will be made to the Club, District and at the 2017 Rotary International Convention in Atlanta.

**Next Meeting Date: 5:30PM May 24, 2017 at 5671 Carmela Court**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:44PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Eric A. Moore

Secretary

April 30, 2017