

## September 2023 - General Meeting

This month's Membership meeting was held at Faith Chapel.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. CTO: 7:45 PM

**Attending:** Adams, Bond, Cleland, Dunn, Gagnon, Gustafson, Hart, Hillebrand, Johnson, Kohler, Logue, Maruca B and F, Penaranda, Roques B and D, Rubright E and M, Small, Stanley

**Welcome:** Guests: Kathy Wilt, Helena and Asa Britten, Paige Neeley

This month, we did not have a scheduled program speaker, but focused on club business.

Pres. Logue announced the club officers for the coming year: Mike Dunn, President; Jody Ruth, Vice President; Don Stanley, Treasurer; Liz Penaranda, Secretary; Directors: Pat Logue as Past President, and Warren Kibler, D. Roques, and Eric Rubright.

We need a meal train for John and Mary Lee Adams to assist them after Mary Lee's surgery.

### Business Meeting

#### **Candidate Forum – A. Menendez**

Al summarized the plans for the upcoming Meet the Candidates sessions at LES on October 18 and 25. The format will be one hour dedicated to attendees speaking to candidates at individual tables, then a question-and-answer session. We are soliciting questions from members to ask the candidates. We will ask all candidates for each office the same questions, with the sessions moderated by Melaney Tagg, LCPS teacher and founder of the Venn Diagram project, and Loudoun County resident for 40 years.

**Minutes:** Secretary summarized minutes from August 2023. Minutes from earlier meetings are posted on our website.

The membership voted in new member, Melissa Fye, sponsored by B. Scott! Welcome, Melissa!

**Treasurer's Report:** D. Stanley reported our accounts as of September 15<sup>th</sup>. We had \$40,418.04 in our Truist checking account; \$151,654.27 in our Vanguard Scholarship Fund and \$138,485.57 in our Vanguard General Opportunity Fund (General Fund \$106,273.83 and Opportunity Fund \$32,211.74), plus \$75 receipt of gift cards, for a total asset amount of \$330,632.88. Don noted that we are near the end of our fiscal year with more than \$40K in our checking account and a budget surplus of \$19K (because some committees have not used all of their allotted operating funds for the year). He also noted that nine line items are under budget.

### Parking Event – P. Logue

The next parking event is the Lucketts Store Berryville Market at the fairgrounds on Oct. 13, 14, and 15. Please sign up if you can help.

### Scholarship Committee Report – R. Cleland

Rich announced that the committee has completed the update to the committee scholarship policy, noting no significant differences, but primarily clarifications. We will start advertising our scholarship program earlier in the coming year, in October, with applications due March 15<sup>th</sup>, which is a new, earlier deadline. We still have the two-track system (one track for students applying to a four-year college and one track for students applying to a two-year community college), but we have added another separate track, "skills training schools," for those applying to a trade school, to be led by P. Hart. Rich reiterated that the POR club reviews all applications and makes recommendations based on community service and academic achievement, and our committee determines the number of scholarships to be awarded and the amounts to be awarded based partly on financial need. He noted that the biggest challenge is the effects of inflation on college costs. We also need additional help on the scholarship committee, so reach out if interested!

### Finance Committee Report – M. Dunn, D. Stanley

Mike and Don noted that we have a carryover amount this year, which we will apply to the new budget year. They also stated that before 2022, we funded scholarships from our fundraising

initiatives, but that due to the good return on our investments, we can now use the income from the Scholarship Fund. R. Cleland stated that we seem to be carrying too much in the General Opportunity Fund and asked if some of these funds could be used for additional scholarships or other items. He pointed out that we may be sitting on usable monies and asked how much reserve do we really need?

The motion was made and carried to approve the 2024 budget.

A motion was made by R. Cleland that the Finance Committee address how to spend down some of the funds in the Opportunity Fund and submit a recommendation for approval by the membership.

### **Lucketts Club Picnic – A. Menendez**

Because the weather forecast for Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the scheduled date for the club picnic, predicts rain, we moved the date of the picnic forward by a week.

Pledge of Allegiance was said, and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

*Submitted by Elizabeth Penaranda, Secretary*

## **September 2023 – Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**

Because Secretary L. Penaranda was unable to attend this Board meeting due to surgery, Board member Eric Rubright and Pres. Logue took notes.

Held at Faith Chapel 26 Sept 2023; call to order: 7:00 p.m.

Attendees: P. Logue, J. Ruth, D. Stanley, M. Dunn, P. Hart, A. Menendez, E. Rubright

### **Boy Scouts Follow Up**

- Jody and Don provided the Board with the written findings from their review of Troop 1910 Financial records. Peter Baker also participated in the review and preparing the Report and Findings.
- Board discussion following the report included the following concerns:
  - Additional time will be required of the Club Treasurer and Board to oversee finances going forward.
  - The Club's financial responsibility and the appropriate reporting on the Club's Annual IRS Form 990 filing need to be clarified.
  - Copy of the 2023 Troop Charter was not coordinated with the Club's Board and contains errors regarding Club roles and responsibilities.
  - Club responsibility for Youth protection program is unclear.
  - Unit Charter Agreement outlines substantial insurance coverages for Charter organizations. Club is not aware of coverages and has no proof that the same are currently in place.
  - It appears that the Troop may be able to secure their own EIN, thereby limiting the financial exposure of the Club and any future Charter.
- LRC must have insurance coverage
- Pat met with District rep for Goose Creek who provided information and agreed to provide current certificates of insurance. Will provide additional information regarding charter organization financial obligation.
- The following additional actions will be considered:

- Troop will go through the process of renewing their charter for this year.
- Ruritans and the Troop will consider separating in 2024.
  - This decision will support the Troop in current year renewal
  - This decision will allow time for the Troop to identify and establish a relationship with a new Charter organization.
- Next step: call for meeting with Troop 1910 Committee Chair and Ruritan board to present findings, expectations, and path forward
- Thanks to Pat for taking on this task

### **Meet the Candidates Report**

- Need at least 10 volunteers from the club each night
- Sign up Genie coming out for volunteers in the next few days

Financial report provided by Don:

- Expenses are significantly lower than budgeted.
  - Generating a surplus of \$21,000+
- Jody reported that, nationally, our club is among the largest clubs in America based on inflows/revenues.
  - Discussed differences between revenue, cash, and other assets of Ruritan clubs with revenues over \$100K. Successful clubs maintain investments that enable them to maintain community giving over time.
- Discussed potential benefits of endowments. Board is considering setting up an endowment as an investment fund. No decision made at this time.

### **Use of the Opportunity Fund**

- Finance committee should not be responsible for deciding what to do with the opportunity fund.
- Discussed ideas for surplus money and Opportunity fund.
  - Board approved \$500 donation for the Tuscarora Theater Boosters.
  - Pat exploring support to 4H club.

John Adams is working to build a relationship between the Farm Museum and Temple Hall

- Meeting occurred and John recommended opportunity to improve entrance with route 15 improvement.

Adjourned 9:22 p.m.