



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of February 8th, 2010

With President Elect Alan in the Chair, and President Mike (and Rotarian Louise) comfortably ensconced at the far end of our Rotary table, 12 of our 14 members settled into a convivial evening of Club business and planning. The first item of interest was getting the details about Louise and Mike's aborted holiday trip to Washington D.C. – due to three feet of snow, and Air Canada's decision to cancel their flight. It seems Ottawa has lost its claim to being the Snow Capital City of North America.

Alan's first item of business was to request a volunteer for the role of Secretary on our Club's Charity Fund Board. With a wee bit o' persuasion, 'Wee Davey B. volunteered to join Rotarians David Mc., Louise, Marion, and Bernie on the Board.

Alan then passed around a fund-raising calendar produced by the Arnprior Rotary Club. With paid advertising, and interesting pictures of local scenery, this looks like a winner as a Club project. Alan offered to get the details of costs, profits, etc. from Arnprior for us to consider the idea further.

Rotarian Marion then gave a run-down on the present status of the previously proposed All Abilities Playground as a possibility for the new sub-division along McNeely

Avenue in Carleton Place. Marion recently met with Jacquie Leach, our long-time friend of Rotary, and Director of the local Child Care Services. Jacquie cautioned against upgrading existing playground equipment in the Town's current parks – due to the liabilities that would be involved. In contrast, she is quite supportive of the proposal for the Club to spearhead the funding of equipment purchase and installation for the new park area that has been donated by the developer of the new sub-division.

If the Club were to choose the All Abilities Playground as a major project, funding sources such as the Trillium Foundation, Ontario Hydro, and The Rotary District Simplified Grants could be approached.

Marion emphasized the need for the Club to take its time is deciding whether or not to adopt this project as a major initiative...one that will call for a multi-year involvement. Rotarian Robert reminded us that we would do well to see what other major projects we could consider as alternates to the Playground. Along these lines, he suggested we each don our thinking hats and come up with personal favourites for major club projects.

Next Week: local investment advisor, Brian Demsey, will be our program.

With Louise and Mike enjoying Washington, weather and Air Canada permitting, President-Elect Alan will be wielding the gavel again. Any suggestions of agenda items will be appreciated, as Alan gets familiar with the role.

