



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of May 23, 2011.

The meeting held tonight was the first of many to deal with a number of business related issues for the Club. It was decided by the members present that in the future the meeting held on the second Monday of the month would be a "Club Assembly" where items that had importance with the Club could be discussed in an open and frank manner. It was further decided by the Club that the first and third Monday's of the month would be when we would entertain a speaker. The last meeting of the month would be set aside to be the President's discretion as to the format and agenda for the meeting would be.

The first item on the agenda was the project that Rotarian Marion was working on with the Town where a multi-use play-structure would be built in a vacant lot behind the new Brigil sub-division, north of Coleman. Marion reported that the Town was willing to put up to \$30K into the project, but she could not say whether any of this money was earmarked for building of the structure or just for site preparation. The cost for installing the structure had been estimated to be \$40-50K. Marion had said that she had already been in contact with the Trillium Foundation to register for a funding request. The application needed to be in their hands no later than July 1st, with payment to come on July 15th. There was also some discussion around applying to the Rotary District for Simplified Grant. In the end, it was decided that the Club needed to find out more about the Town's commitment to the

project and where their funds would be directed before any grant applications could be filed.

As part of the discussion about the playground, Bernie's e-mail about the essay writing contest where a maximum of a \$150K prize of an inclusive play structure and grounds preparation / consultation services. Rotarian Doug volunteered to write the essay. Marion and Louise both said that they would try to assist in any manner possible. Based upon the information from the contest web-site, the winners would not be decided until late August.

Rotarian Gordon then gave us an update about the trail maintenance requirements. Gordon said that he could not get his riding mower into the back of his vehicle and asked if there would be other members who could do the job of mowing. Rotarian Jim said that he would be available to do the work on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.

Gordon then gave us further updates on the easement issues that have arisen. Gordon has not heard back from the new owners of the Barracks in regard to his proposal. He did say that there may be potential for the Town of Mississippi Mills to assume some of the access rights to the properties near the trail through a severance.

Gordon also said that the Town of Mississippi Mills had given him a conditional OK to use a herbicide on the trail. Jim said he would also see if he could do this as well.

President George then brought the discussion to planning for the fall Maskerade Ball. Rotarian Robert said that he had been in discussions about this project

with Rotarian Marion. Robert then informed us that the band that played at last year's event was not available for this year. Gordon then said that he would discuss the integration of our event with the BIA with some of the people who were involved in the current Mayor's election run. Additional discussion was then made around the ticket prices and whether there may be a possibility of giving a charitable donation receipt for a portion of the ticket price. Robert then also suggested that we could try to promote the event where different groups or organizations could buy tables for the event.

President George then presented another issue that he had on the agenda; 50/50 draws. He wanted to see if someone could administer the Carleton Place Bazaar's event on July 1st and also to try to connect with the people who are organizing the Almonte Celt Festival in August. Doug then raised his hand to commit to this project.

George then asked Gordon to bring us up to date on the donation requests that were on his file. The first matter was for a woman that needed supportive assistance when she visits her child in Toronto's Sick Children's Hospital. Gordon researched into whether there was a Ronald McDonald House in Toronto and then referred her to that organization to assist her.

The next donation item was the Red Cross request presented by Doug at last week's meeting, whereby Gordon asked Doug for clarification on the usage of the funds and the process through which funds were to be generated. Doug was able to satisfactorily answer Gordon's questions. Gordon then recommended that we donate \$200.00 to the Red Cross. Rotarian Mike then said that we will be hosting a representative of the Red

Cross next week and that would be a good time to present the cheque.

Two additional requests for support of Public initiatives by the Town of Mississippi Mills were then presented to the Club. Rotarian David then spoke, saying that the Town was just trying to save money from their own tax pool and all such requests from the Town should be dismissed. A motion was brought forward and seconded by Mike. The matter was passed with only Jim in dissension.

The floor was then opened to Rotarian Bernie who brought us up to date on the RYLA student from last week that was to attend a Rotary Youth Conference last weekend in Gatineau. Bernie said that he had a lengthy talk on Tuesday about the Conference with one of the Quebec District Managers. Bernie was concerned because a proper itinerary and details about the events had not been sent out to our supported Representative. Through the course of his discussion he found out that the site for the Conference was not in Gatineau but in Entre-Lac Quebec, which is near Mont Tremblant. Following his call with the D.M., Bernie then called the mother of our delegate late Wednesday evening to inform them of what he had just learned. Due to the lateness of our learning of the change of venue, our delegate could not make the necessary travel arrangements to go.

Bernie then took it upon himself to write an e-mail to Katie Burke to look into why there was such poor communication about this change of venue and to call out the D.M. who made the arrangements. In her initial response to Bernie, Katie said that even she did not know of the change of venue and she should have been advised of such a change. Bernie also asked Katie if it were possible to

get the funds that the Club had put forward
to send our delegate to the conference.