



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of Oct. 17, 2011

This meeting had 4 guests attending as well as 11 of our Club members. We had Assistant District General David Batchelor from the Perth Club as well as a woman from Guatemala who is our contact for the joint projects we have engaged in with the Perth Club. Her name is Clara Colot. Since Clara is not fluent in English, she was accompanied with a translator named Melissa Hale.

President George opened the meeting by asking Secretary Doug if we had received anything in the mail. Doug responded that he had not checked the mail box, but had received an e-mail from the company that was running the Playground Contest. The message stated that our Club was not selected for any of the prizes and that the Canadian winner was a group based in Elmira, Ontario.

George then briefly discussed the meeting the previous Tuesday at the Kemptville Club's meeting hall where they were entertaining five visitors from Brazil as part of an exchange program that they operate. The Brazilians were all young professionals and were very fluent in English. There were seven members from our Club in attendance at this very interesting evening.

George then asked the members in attendance if we should cancel our meeting on Monday, October 31st. Before the issue

could be settled, George asked Assistant District General if statutory holidays that fell on meeting days were counted as cancelled meetings, as there is a Rotary rule which states that a Club can only cancel four meetings in any given year. David responded that the statutory holidays do not count as cancelled meetings. A suggestion was made to defer the meeting until Tuesday, November 1st, provided that the management of the Thirsty Moose had the meeting room available for that evening.

Rotarian Brian was asked to give a status update on the Rose Sale scheduled for next month. He said that he had not received the information about the sale from Mike as yet, but they planned to discuss it after the general meeting later on.

George then called upon Rotarian Marion to give an update on the Seniors Christmas dinner. She said that the pianist, Sean Murphy could not make the date as originally planned and she asked if anyone knew of anyone else who could provide entertainment for the evening to contact her.

George then asked Gordon if there were any new developments with the Trillium Fund and our Playground proposal. Gordon said that the funds must be administered by a corporation, therefore, we would forward the funds to the Town once received and they would handle all of the billing.

Gordon further said that any of the Club's on-going support for Habitat for Humanity and the Big Brothers and Sisters would be contingent upon whether we were to go ahead with the development of the playground, whereby the Club would be providing \$10,000 towards the project.

George then asked Rotarian Bernie to speak. Bernie said that the student from Carleton

Place High School had started to attend the different Hi-Tech companies in the Kanata area as planned. He also said that the student and a parent would be attending our next regularly scheduled meeting as our guests and to provide a synopsis of the week's events.

George then asked if there were any other matters to be brought forward. The floor was opened to Rotarian Mike who said that the speaker who was coming next week did not drive at night and need to be picked up and dropped off before and after our meeting. He said that he made arrangements whereby he would pick up our guest beforehand and Rotarian Brian would drive her home afterwards.

The problem with one of the owners of land near the easement for the Appleton Trail has become more of an issue. Gordon has asked that the following statement be added to the minutes of the meeting for future posterity.

Gordon MacNabb and President George presented the following update on their efforts to get approval of new easement agreements from owners of private land that the Rotary Centennial Trail crosses.

Gordon reported that he had been trying to get the new owners of The Olde Barracks to agree to renew the trail easement across their property. He contacted a Mr. Mike Hughes (one of the co-owners) last Spring but as yet has been unsuccessful in getting a meeting with him and, more recently, getting him to return telephone calls. President George said that he had contacted Mr. Hughes over a month ago and at that time Mr. Hughes had expressed concern that the trail was causing water backup at the Olde Barracks. George had indicated that a larger culvert had recently been installed on the adjacent Pentecostal Church property and perhaps

that would solve any problem but he should contact Mr. MacNabb and arrange a meeting to look over the situation. Mr. Hughes said he would call Gordon the following Monday at 8 pm but has failed to make such a call. George and Gordon have attempted to locate Mr. Hughes' place of business and home without success so have contacted Councillor John Edwards for assistance in that regard.

Gordon reported that the previous easements had expired last December and the insurance coverage by the Town of Mississippi Mills had therefore also expired. He had been seeking an easement renewal that would be unlimited in term but could be cancelled by either party anytime after the end of the first year of the easement by giving a one-year notice of termination to the other party. Hence the Club would be assured of at least two years of trail access across the private property. The Pentecostal Church has agreed to this form of extension and while it has been discussed with Mr. Hughes he not as yet agreed.

Club members accepted this report and urged President George and Gordon to continue their efforts to contact Mr. Hughes and to conclude an agreement for a new easement as soon as possible."

We then enjoyed a special presentation from our Guatemalan associate who provided us with a very good insight into the problems that the people that she supports face on a daily basis.