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**Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills**

**Meeting of February 20, 2012**

There were 8 members in attendance at the meeting this week. The majority of those missing were in warmer climes for a vacation.

President-Elect Robert was behind the dais tonight on behalf of President George. The first order of business was a financial statement, which was not fully accessible due to Treasurer David’s absence.

Robert then turned the floor over to Secretary Doug in order for him to report on any correspondence received through the Post. We had received a newsletter from the Textile Museum as well as an announcement for an up-coming event to be held at the Mill of Kintail in conjunction with the Almonte Pottery Guild. This event was geared towards children during the March Break and cost $250 for the week.

Robert then asked Rotarian Marion to give an update on any status changes in the Playground Project. She responded that there were not and Rotarian Gordon concurred.

Robert then asked Sergeant-at Arms Arthur to give an update on the bowling and pizza evening on March 12th. He said that he had not received any solid numbers for attendees, but there were a lot of people whose friends were being invited to the night. Robert then said that we should look at this event as a marketing night as the Club was also going to have some brochures on Rotary available for those guests.

Robert then asked Rotarian Mike to give a status update on the up-coming compost sale. He then handed out to everyone present a copy of a budget proposal that he had drawn up. He also put forward the dates of April 28 and 29 as the days for the sale. He also asked that any student volunteers be notified of the planned date so that they could help out on those days. It was also suggested that a Press Release be sent out to the local media on or about April 14 in order to further promote the event. Mike also said that he had spoken to the owner of the Barracks about our Club using his site for the compost sale and that was okayed.

Robert then asked the group for comments on the e-mail circulated amongst members from Brian Turner, who was seeking input on directions that his program should take. Gordon mentioned that we had already committed to provide $250 to support his group. Marion then said that she felt that the Club as whole should respond to the e-mail and that if necessary, individuals within the Club could also give their opinions. Doug said that he agreed with Marion’s position on this matter. Mike then suggested that we ask Brian to speak at an up-coming meeting to discuss his ideas for the Youth Centre and any related programs that he would like to run out of the centre. Robert then read from the initial e-mail and said that Brian had asked for responses to be forwarded by the end of the month. Doug was then asked to send Brian a response to the initial e-mail from Brian asking him to attend one of our meetings to further discuss this community initiative.

The Club’s discussion then carried onto the subject of the use of Oxycontin on the streets, to which Gordon suggested that the owner of the local IDA Pharmacy would be a good speaker to talk about the issues of controlled substances and narcotics sold by pharmacies.

Marion then asked who among the members present planned to attend the 65th Anniversary Fête for the Perth Club on the 25th in Perth. Doug said that he was planning to attend the meeting at Algonquin College on that day.

Doug then was asked to speak by Robert. Doug had brought with him a copy of the insert from the local Perth newspapers last week that presented the Club’s past and present accomplishments. He then passed the circular around the Club members for them to examine.

Doug then continued on by speaking about his observations of the Civitan Club while attending their Eastern Ontario Conference the weekend before as a guest of his girlfriend Linda. One of the main things noticed was that the logo and objectives of membership of Civitan were very similar to those of Rotary. The main element of their Creed was “The Golden Rule”. He also said that their main objective of supporting those people with physical and /or mental disabilities or those community based groups that support such people were their area of community support. Their organization seemed to be very top heavy, well organized yet still functioned very well at the grass-roots level. One of their main problems is attracting new members.

Following is the Civitan International’s Objective, “To build good citizenship by providing a volunteer organization of Clubs, dedicated to serving individual and community need with an emphasis on helping people with developmental challenges.”.

In closing Doug offered up a suggestion to give guest speakers an “End Polio Now” car magnet in addition to a pen. Robert said he would support such a move and that we should do so.