**\*\*\* Meeting held via ZOOM Webinar \*\*\***

**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm by Sung Lee, who recognized that there was a Board Quorum.

**Board Members in attendance**: Bill Armstrong, Nathan Ekola, Mark Henne, Sung Lee, Chris Nugent, Ody Norkin, Ger Schultink, Kristin Shelley, Bill Webb

**Board Members Absent**: Joshua Clayton, Monica Michael, Keith Thomas

**Other Members in Attendance**: Peter Dewan, Jeffrey Fineis, Ingrid Nova (ex-officio), Joe Osypczuk (ex-officio), John Saltzgaber

**Guests in Attendance:** Adam Cummins, City of East Lansing

There was a special presentation by Adam Cummins, Administrator of Community and Economic Development for the City of East Lansing, regarding their special pandemic efforts.

There might be a way for the Rotary Club of East Lansing to partner with the City of East Lansing. There are many businesses that are closing their doors because of the pandemic, and they are trying to lower the percentage of East Lansing. They are trying to expand the number of outdoor seating areas available for area restaurants, and are also trying to increase the traffic trying to help the businesses as well as the local artists.

The City of East Lansing is also looking at the mental health impact of the local residents and how they can help them. They City is also trying to provide a safe and inviting environment for everyone. They are looking to create a specific website just for downtown East Lansing. “Daytime. Nighttime. Anytime. Place project.” There will be the ability to purchase gift cards for use in downtown East Lansing. Adam will be giving a full presentation on Monday, January 4 as the program. This is a potential service project for the East Lansing Rotary Club.

**President Report/Action Plan**

Motion by Chris Nugent, second by Ger Schultink to remove the past due amount for Missie Rill. Motion PASSED.

Ingrid Nova confirm that District Gov. Elect Rita will be in contact with Nathan regarding his past due amount.

Discussion was held regarding the Holiday Cheer Project at the Willows of East Lansing. Treas. Bill Armstrong confirmed that there is $2500 in unallocated funds that could be used for this program. John Saltzgaber reported that this is a service project to provide holiday cheer for those at the assisted living and memory care facility at the Willows. In order to make it fair for everybody that works/lives there, John suggested that we spend $711 for gift cards in addition to the holiday bags.

Motion by Ger Schultink, second by Bill Armstrong, to spend $711 for this project at the Willows in East Lansing. Motion PASSED.

Nathan Ekola spoke about a special program where every eligible student in an area receive a book in the mail. This would be an opportunity for a service project from the Rotary Club of East Lansing. The program is called Imagination Library. Nathan is willing to spearhead this program. There would be a potential $500-$900 per month expense for these books. Any service clubs that are interested in this program could start fundraising and raising money for this program. Only after about $10,000 is raised, could we go forward with this program.

Kristin Shelley reported that it is an excellent program, but there is a lot of work, and in the past, this program has been geared towards the rural areas, or communities that are more in need. The Rotary Club would just be a potential sponsor. This is something to research more and look into for the future.

**Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

MOTION by Bill Armstrong, second by Ger Schultink, to accept the minutes from the November 12, 2020 Board Meeting. Motion PASSED.

MOTION by Kristen Shelley, support by Chris Nugent, to accept Maribeth Fletcher as a potential member, with the circulation letter be sent to the general membership with a return within three days, due to the pandemic situation. Motion PASSED.

A potential induction date for Maribeth would be Monday, December 14.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treas. Bill reported that he has not been to the bank recently, but he does have a number of checks. We should be aware that checks will be deposited today which will update the Accounts Receivable report.

**Jeff Fineis** is the Treasurer of the East Lansing Rotary Club Foundation, and wanted to give a quick report. There was a question of whether we are able to use the Foundation money for other projects. He wanted to note that the Treasurer does keep track of all funds, including $50,000, which is permanently restricted. However, there are funds for potential projects such as Haven House, the Joe Gross Scholarship, etc. Just since July 1, the Foundation has distributed over $7,000. Jeff wanted to update the board so that they were aware of the Foundation activities.

There being no further business to conduct, Sung Lee adjourned the meeting at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Ingrid Nova**

Club Administrative Secretary