

**VISALIA ROTARY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Zoom Meeting  
August 25, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:00 a.m. by Deborah Volosin, President.

**PRESENT** (\*indicates voting positions followed by applicable two or three-year term expiration year): Deborah Volosin (President\*, 2021), Duane Scott (Executive Secretary\*), Phil Hornburg (Vice President), Gary Simmons (Treasurer), Francie Langley (Secretary\*), Steve Chrisman (Director of Grants\*, 2021), Susan Lucas (Director of Scholarship Selection\*, 2022), Ryan Purkiss, (Immediate Past President\*; Director of Finance and Fellowships\*, 2021), Dru Quesnoy (Director of Marketing\*, 2022), Donn Ritter (Co-Director of Grants\*, 2023), Gerry Schneider (Director of Giving Administration and Tracking\*, 2021), Marty Zeeb (Major Projects Coordinator), Liz Wynn, (VRC\*, 2021) Iris East (VBR\*, 2021), and Gene Yunt (Financial Advisor). **ABSENT:** Eric Shannon (Executive Director\*; Director of Long-Range Fund Raising/Planned Giving\*, 2021), Anees Akhund (President Elect, 2021), Shirle Reynolds (Executive Assistant), Merritt Wiseman (VCC\*, 2021), and Aron Gularte (VSR\*, 2021).

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the July 28, 2020 meeting stand as presented.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Duane Scott reported the total balance in all the accounts was \$6,958,521.99 on August 17, 2020 compared to the balance of \$6,782,306.99 on July 27, 2020. The increase is from the market doing a little better and \$26,000 received from the Downtown Rotary Club for their scholarship fund. Disbursements from the Dwelle, Visalia Downtown Rotary, Salierno, Watson, and Nash Scholarship Funds totaled \$10,750. The financial report shall be filed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A.) Scholarship Committee – Susan Lucas reported one vocational application was received and approved.
- B.) Grant Committee – Donn Ritter said there was nothing to report. Gerry Schneider passed along a request from Friends of the Fox for emergency funds. Due to COVID-19 they have had to cancel all their shows for the rest of the year. Duane Scott said the emergency fund balance is about \$60,000. It was decided to ask the Fox to submit an application for an emergency fund grant (as opposed to a “bricks and mortar” grant) which would then be evaluated by the Foundation Board.
- C.) Brewfest 2020 – Brewfest 2020 was canceled as a live event but the idea to make it a virtual event is being considered. The committee discussed donating the proceeds to Tulare County Hope for the Homeless (TC Hope), an organization created to build a low barrier shelter for the homeless, which is required if you do not want the homeless in the public areas. Our Foundation has earmarked \$20,000 from the 2020-2021 grant funds for this project. The City of Visalia approved the old Cal Trans site for the location of the building. Phil Hornburg reported that the City of Visalia will be opening the property to bidding.

Interested parties have 45 days from receipt of the bidding request to place their bid and then the City has 90 days to decide the winning bid or reject all the bids. The Committee will wait to go forward with plans for the virtual Brewfest until more is known about the successful property bid.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A.) Meeting Location – Steve Chrisman informed the Board that the Community Room at what was Buckman Mitchell will not be available for live meetings of our Foundation Board until after the first of the year at the earliest. It was suggested that Quail Park at Shannon Ranch might be a suitable location. Gerry Schneider will contact Jeff Moyer concerning using that location to meet.
- B.) Rotary in Visalia Centennial – Gerry Schneider requested this topic be an ongoing agenda item. Gerry will report the progress of the Centennial Committee. The Rotary Club of Visalia will turn 100 years old near the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022, but rather than celebrate one club, the Centennial will commemorate Rotary in Visalia and include all the Visalia clubs. In brief, the plan is to refurbish the inside of Rotary Theatre at a cost of about \$500,000, have a celebration gala, and document the history of Rotary in Visalia. Gerry reminded the Board of their \$100,000 pledge to the project and to remember these funds in their grant planning. Gerry plans to give presentations to each of the Visalia Rotary club boards and their membership and request pledges to the project. After discussion it was suggested each club decide on their pledge amount. Any amount they give to the Foundation over their dues could go to the Centennial project. Dru Quesnoy will see about meeting to discuss a fundraising sub-committee. The seating for the Rotary Theater is estimated to cost about \$100,000. (One idea is for donors “buy” a seat and a little plaque with their name would go on the seat.)
- C.) Thank You –Ryan for continuing to administer the Zoom meetings(!)

**NEXT MEETING:** Next meeting will be at 7:00 am on Tuesday, September 22, 2020; location to be announced. “Thank you!” for all you do!

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:26 a.m.

Francie Langley  
Secretary

**Reminder)** The Foundation is now registered with Amazon Smile Foundation. Shop online at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) for eligible merchandise and .5% of the purchase will be donated to our Foundation; **Club Representatives** please remind your clubs.

Foundation President Rotation Schedule:

VBR – Anees Akhund	2021-2022
VRC –	2022-2023
VSR –	2023-2024
VCC –	2024-2025
VLR – if reinstated	

Past Presidents:

Dale Bruder	2013-2014
Gerry Schneider	2014-2015
Donn Ritter	2015-2016
Marty Zeeb	2016-2017
Lloyd Hicks	2017-2018
Bruce Nicotero	2018-2019
Ryan Purkiss	2019-2020