

MINUTES

Board Meeting
Thursday, May 11, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Chisago Lakes Town Hall



Call to Order

Vice President Scott R. called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Attendance

President Chris Schneider (Virtual)
Vice President Scott Ross
Treasurer Marlys Dunn
Fundraising Director Natasha Zarich
Secretary Michele Lindau
Member at Large Robert Morrison
Member at Large Tim Clark (Virtual)
Guest Trena Morrison and Chris Dubose

Approval of Minutes

Marlys D. made motion, Natasha Z. seconded, to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on April 12, 2023, as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Karl Oskar Days Update

Chris D. informed the group that the Rotary said they could handle the beer by themselves and want the GNC to do the food. The Rotary no longer does the golf fundraiser event and now only has two events (Karl Oskar Days and Ki-Chi-Saga Days). Marty from Dutchland Foods had said he could provide all the food, and would be the responsible party. The city had said if the GNC did food, it would be included in the event permit. Marty had indicated he could do his own food trailer but was willing to step back if the GNC bought the food from Duetschland. David Peck needed to know asap. Marlys D. said she will talk with Marty. They were anticipating 400 people to attend. The band will be the Billie Joe Band and is playing from 8 p.m. to midnight on Friday. Doors open at 7 p.m. Things needed were grills (Marty, Shawn D., or the Fire Department may have one to use), at least one GNC volunteer to take money, at least two volunteers to serve hotdogs, and a tent. There was also a suggestion to sell tickets.

Marlys made motion, Chris S. seconded, to proceed with plans for the food stand at Karl Oskar Days. All Ayes. Motion carried.

North Center Dock

A dock was located to install on North Center Lake in Center City. Chris D. explained they were asking for a \$500 donation. The Board was hesitant to spend that much money but agreed on \$250 if the Club could get some recognition on the dock. Scott R. made motion, Rob M. seconded, to approve a donation of \$250 for the dock on North Center Lake. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Art Dash

Chris D. explained the Art Dash would be done again this year at Camp Ojekita, and the cost was \$100 to sponsor, and there would be drawings for the art. No action was taken by the Board.

Deck Work

Chris D. talked about a letter from a resident last fall inquiring about the availability of the GNC to do some work on a deck that included staining after power washing and/or scraping it. She said she would make a donation to the Club. It was agreed it needed to be looked at before committing. Rob M. said he would look at it with Dennis K and Chris S. Chris D. will forward her contact info to those three.

Vote in New Members

Marlys D. made motion, Rob M. seconded, to vote in new members Alvin White, Donna Johnston, Edy Elliott, Sandy Hulke, Patti Anderson. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Board Positions/Committee Roles

Chris S. questioned whether the fundraising role should be eliminated and add an additional member at large to the board. Nominations for new board members would need to be gathered and voted on at the next membership meeting. The board decided to keep the position in hopes that someone may step up.

Marlys D. made motion, Rob M. seconded, to accept the resignations of Communications Director Miranda Olson and Members at Large Lindsay Schmitt and Stephanie Schneider. All Ayes. Motion carried.

It was noted that Natasha Z. was nominated for the Communications Director position, and Dana H. and Trena M were nominated for Member at Large positions. Michele L. will send out an email to the Club to let them know of the vacancies and ask for nominations.

Treasurer Update

Marlys D. stated there was approximately \$6,200 in the bank account. Previously approved was \$250 to help pay for the dock on North Center. There was also an invoice to be paid for the Rotary membership of \$125 for the quarter, and it was estimated \$35 was needed for the Karl Oskar Days parade. A check for \$5,000 needed to be written to the Wild River Snowmobile Club, as the GNC is the fiscal agent.

Discussion on Adding Tech Items to Budget (i.e. microphone, cameras)

Scott R. talked about the acoustics in the town hall not being the best. A mic and camera would be needed for live meetings and Facebook live posts. Chris S. said the cost of purchasing together was around \$300. Scott R. suggested tabling this to allow him to confer with David Peck who does ZOOM meetings. Natasha and Scott will check with Chisago township to see what is available in the room. Chris S. pointed out that the Club is allowed to use the room for free, and the Club has reserved it for the seconded Thursday of each month for GNC meetings. It was agreed to bring this back for discussion on whether money needed to be budgeted for technology.

Adopt a Grandparent Program Update

Marlys D. provided a recap of the Zion Church community meal the Club helped with that past Monday. She said there was great conversation, and the Club has its first verbal commitment for the Adopt a Grandparent Program recipient. A survey was conducted that showed the most desirable services were yard work, light housekeeping, and game nights. Some AAGP committee members will have a table at the May 22 community meal. There are 12 GNC volunteers for the program. She noted that Seniors are from a very proud generation, and there is a fear and trust factor, which has made the committee come to realize there

needs to be work done to establish relationships first.

On May 16, some AAGP committee members will be attending a residents' meeting at Parmly and will be announcing the Club's plan to hold an open house for the gazebo some Club member helped fix up last fall. Marlys was also waiting to hear back on a date for the Club to do an ice cream social.

Another gazebo project will be done on Saturday, June 3, around 9 a.m. Marlys was waiting to see if the Parmly crew will be doing the power washing. The Knights of Columbus will be bringing 5-6 people to help. Parmly will be providing all the supplies.

Scott R. Ross informed the group that on Monday, September 18, Zion Church will be holding an outdoor fundraiser that the GNC may be able to participate in. He will provide more information at a later date.

Merchandise Sales/Payments (Square and Jotform)

Scott R. has reached out to his merchandise contact to get quotes for other items. Chris S. said he would send data to the Board on the cost of the Square platform. Sales would only be done in person, not online. Jotform worked well but Natasha pointed out there is only so much you can do with the free version. To link Jotform with Square, there may be an additional cost. The Club also needed to decide if it wanted to carry merchandise. Chris said he will work on laying out all the associated costs.

New Members Orientation

Scott R. and Chris S. talked about the information that needs to get out to the new members such as connecting to the Groupme App, getting Club merchandise, signing up for the Blog, etc. It was suggested and agreed that they should receive a half hour orientation before the Club meetings. Scott will work on the onboarding process and seek out volunteers to do orientation.

Upcoming Events

Karl Oskar Days Parade – Plans are being finalized. Natasha will send out a “save the date” to the membership. Volunteers will be needed Friday and Saturday. It was suggested to send out a “save the date” for the Ki Saga Day parade as well.

Adopt a Highway – Road cleanup is scheduled for Sunday, May 21.

Miscellaneous Discussion

Volunteers for committees -Natasha Z. talked about having a champion for each event. For her to do activities will be too much, but she felt communications coming from one person was important. She will be asking for volunteers to head up the committees and report to her what is need for volunteers. She has started checklists for events to make it helpful to anyone taking over the activity.

Handling of requests - Chris S. thought things were working pretty well so far, and he talked about the need to be responsive.

Earth Day Challenge – Marlys D. received a card with a clipping from the paper of the Earth Day Challenge photo. It was from Chisago Lakes School Superintendent Dean Jennissen thanking the group for its service to the community.

Sponsors – Rob M. asked if the club was working on getting sponsors and said he envisioned another committee would do that. Scott. R. talked about meeting Kim's team in White Bear Lake. There was discussion on needing one constant message and the need to get leads. It is recognized that the Club has no big sponsors. This will be discussed with the Club at the next meeting.

Adopt a Drain – The Club had talked in the past about adopting a drain and it was decided that people needed to do it on their own and encourage others to do it. Rob M. is also a member of the Lakes Association and said he will bring it up to them and encourage participation.

Waivers – Marlys questioned the need to have volunteers sign waivers to participate in events. There was discussion in the past to put a blanket waiver on the membership form. Chris S. will reach out to Mike from the Forest Lake Club to see if it has ever been a concern to their group.

Board Member Bios – The Board discussed the need to get bios from all members of the Board on the website, not just the executive members. This needs to be conveyed to all Board members. Board members discussed at length the need to include all of the board members in any board discussions, and encourage all member input and participation

Next Meeting

The next Club meeting will be held on Thursday, June 8, 2023. The New Member Orientation will begin at 6 p.m. and the Club meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be on July 13, 2023, at 6 p.m.

Adjourn

Michele made motion, Rob M. seconded, to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared and submitted by Secretary Michele Lindau.

“Chisago Lakes Good Neighbors club, through its resources and diverse membership, contributes to the needs and wellbeing of our communities through acts of kindness.”