**AG Zoom Meeting Notes**

**July 19, 2024 9am to 10:30am**

AGs ATTENDING: Chip Cross, Sarah McGuire, Tracy Petrosky, Joan VanOrman, Andie Taylor, Donna Ensley, Patrick Longano, Tim Radford, and Pat Snyder. OTHER ATTENDEES: Connie, Alpo, Rick

Connie opened the meeting at 9am:

* Point of this meeting is not “report outs” but an opportunity to share information, ask questions, and learn from each other
* If you need a quick response from Connie, TEXT her (or Rick). Connie does not want to be a hurdle in getting something moved forward.
* Reminder that Rotary is a no religion, no politics organization. People are certainly entitled to their opinions but we need to keep religion and politics out of our Rotary meetings, projects, fundraisers, and socials.
* Peace Pole Project: Goal is to plant 50 this year throughout our District. There is movement right now to create a pool of funds for Clubs to apply for money from the District to help pay for the Peace Poles (maybe $250 per pole). This would be a super simple grant application. Hope to roll it out in the next few weeks.

Alpo talked about the Clubs with no PE listed.

* Importance of succession planning in the Clubs
* This ties into planning for PETS (date for PETS 2025 is March 14-15)
* Having a PE makes the job of President much easier (someone to help them and learn in advance of being in the role)
* There are 29 clubs with a PE and Alpo is hoping AGs can help
  + Nice tone
  + We don’t want to sound like we’re hitting the Presidents with another thing
  + AGs are here to help; AGs are a resource for the Clubs
* Alpo will make sure that each AG knows which Clubs they are matched with that don’t have a PE listed

Club Health Assessment Tool – Connie reminded everyone that one of the District goals is to have each Club either conduct a Club Health Assessment or plan to do one at the transition from 24-25 to 25-26.

* A free survey tool exists on DACdb (Connie showed everyone how to access it)
* The survey responses are anonymous so the goal is to get honest answers from Club members
* While changes cannot be made to the tool that is available, Clubs can copy those questions and use another tool (ie SurveyMonkey) if they want to add questions.
  + Pat said that is in the AVL Clubs by-laws to do this assessment each year (love that!) and he reminded us that the good thing about using the tool is that the answers are combined with answers all over the world for RI to look at trends

Sarah McGuire is the District 7670 Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Chair for 24-25. Our District hasn’t had a lot of focus on RLI since before COVID. This is a GREAT opportunity to “engage members” in Rotary. It is low cost (less than $100 per level) but there is often travel involved. There are 3 levels of RLI – some on the call have already attended some or all 3. Sarah would like to have an RLI training event:

* Looking at Saturday Oct 5
* Option to collaborate with 7680 and do the training event in West Jefferson was “okay” but the preference among the AGs on the call was to have our own event in the AVL area
  + Sarah reiterated that she will need help finding a venue and the basic logistics
  + We all need to help promote RLI

Chip Cross has already met with all 3 of his Clubs and asked to see if anyone had a “tracking form.”

* Rick will work on creating something that is an option for AGs to use
* Good discussion followed:
  + How often to visit clubs? (good rule of thumb is quarterly)
  + Get on the Club weekly bulletin distribution list
  + If they are on Social Media, be sure to follow each of your matched clubs
  + Participate when you can in fundraisers, projects, and socials
  + Question came up about not hearing back from a Club President – do I just “show up”???? Suggestion was to maybe find another Club member to befriend and start working your way in with them. Definitely want to be sensitive here.
* Joan shared that she had a couple of Clubs having been denied their District Grant Requests and that she worked with Nancy Brooks on behalf of the Clubs to find out what happened (the Clubs didn’t follow the rules of the District Grant Requests).
  + Good reminder: AGs if you can, plan to attend Grants Mgmt Seminar with your Clubs. March 2 in Black Mountain.

Andie Taylor is the District 7670 CART Chair for 24-25 and she reminded everyone about the Blue Buckets. Members are encouraged to give to CART - $40 per person is the District Goal. If members prefer, there is an option to donate via the QR code or set up a recurring donation. Just $60 per year ($5 per month) recurring donations will be recognized as Roger Ackerman Circle Members. Please consider doing this as researchers are stating that they are getting closer and closer to finding a cure for Alzheimer’s and the funding of that cutting edge research thru the CART Fund is helping us get closer.