Yellowstone District Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 6th 2018 -  5 p.m.

Teleconference

**Members in Attendance**

Les Grigg,*District President,*Leif  Welhaven,*Region 2 Vice President,*Lisa Mee,*District Treasurer,*Betsy Foster-Ogburn,*District Secretary*

*District Directors:*Cindi Farrar*, Division 1,*Tony Parish,*Division 2,*JR Reseigh,*Division 4,*Jim Szatkowski,*Division 5*

**Members Absent**

Ken Gomer, *District President Elect*, Tom Ferguson, *Division 3*

**I.     Meeting called to order**

**II.**    **Meeting Minutes**

        No previous minutes available to present for approval

**III.   Committee Reports:**

**A. Approve annual budget:**Chair, Lisa presented fiscal 2018 budget proposal.  District Convention resulted in being over budget.  There are still a few outstanding District Convention enrollment expenses and outstanding reimbursement requests, There is a $96 reimbursement request for Leif for the trip to Great Falls for the launch on the current fiscal year. Check was sent to the ACE recipient but have not heard from the Youth of the year. Leif will follow up with Reagan.

Proposed budget is for 733 total members.  Only change is the mid-winter training is up to $1,800 uncertain if doing the midwinter conference.

Detroit meeting in October and Leif asked to cover travel expense. Lisa agreed. Lodging is paid for by National. Leif suggested ear marking money for use, depending on how Ken Gomer recovers, for Norfolk in February. Additionally, set aside money for Les.  Lisa said she will change that on budget line item. Les said he'll contact National to see what the cost is on that.  $800 to $1100 is estimated.

Further mentioned for the Proposed budget was a suggestion  $1400 with the Bozeman and Dillon clubs. Allocate $250 for new club building.  Bozeman doing good, but Jim is going to visit Dillon. Billings is trying for a Sheridan and a Jr, Club in Billings. Since we are growing, we need to allocate, Leif said.  Cindi and Les are going to visit the Boise club without reimbursement.  Cindi said it will take a lot of effort to get in to the tight community.  Bozeman is going "great guns" according to Cindi.

It was asked how much we can allocate. Leif said as much as possible to move forward with Executive, Club retention and building. $700 for each was moved by Leif. / Second by Cindi.   Passed.

Proposal to approve budget for club building. All in favor...Motion Passed

Proposal to approve budget...Tony motioned. Seconded and passed.

**B. Exchange Education:**  Encourage directors to reach out to club Presidents on University to get the minimum standards met.

**C.   Interclub / Fellowship:**

Looking for thoughts from Leif as far as a committee and who would chair.  Leif said on the District side we haven't done that, but it is a cool idea.  Pulling together Great Falls, Butte and so forth.  It has never been a priority. It would be more than one committee. Leif will give it more thought. Tony suggested to get started by establishing fellowship first and build it from there.  Leif. then suggested bringing Club Presidents and President Elects together regularly on the phone for ideas and open lines of communication.

**D.   Convention:**

June 6,7,8 in Idaho Falls.  Leif sent out the calendar for the rest of the event but not Vegas yet.

**E.   Membership:**

Jim Stillwell is to have an organizational meeting in Butte. Cindi will talk to Jim at the meeting g tomorrow.

Request from Lisa to update Caldwell, Nampa and Great Falls.. Also, need to provide officers information. Jim forwarded them to Leif and Leif said he'd pull and update them. He also said he would reach out to Linda in Great Falls.

**F.   New Club Building:**

Adhoc group to this specific area.  Leif said it will be better to pull the people together to build clubs as Leif will be more involved in the District and National Events.

**IV.     District Directors Report:**

**Division 1:**

Cindi reported that the Butte clean up and community improvement events have been successful.  Chris Grudzinski of the Veterans Meatlocker will be the speaker. Another will be a graduate of drug court and CAP center service recipient. There will be flags printed by foster kids in acknowledgement that these are the children our CAP centers are often times protecting. There is a  Butte Exchange Social to invite family and friends and a bus trip in August. Great Falls Exchange is now on Face Book. They got plaques and will be dedicating a Freedom Shrine at Highwood.  Dandelion Program will be the recipients of the 50/50 ticket sale. Cindi will get to Helena to visit.  Bozeman is working hard to establish  their club and are active in sponsoring social night, volunteering. helping CASA, Helping county youth to build and charter. Their website is www.bozemane[xchangeclub.org](http://xchangeclub.org/).

**Division 2:**

Tony said that the Breakfast Exchange Club is hosting their Salute to America Day at the fair on August 17th.  This will be open to all veterans, first responders etc and their spouses. There will be several public speakers as well as a helicopter parachute jump by Sgt Dana Bowman. September 8th is the date of the Breakfast Exchange’s Million Dollar Hole in One Tournament.  This takes place at the Exchange Par 3 Course in Billings. Proceeds this year will go to Operation Underground Railroad.

The Laurel Exchange Club is hosting their first Healing Field on 9/11.  Proceeds for the event will go to the Family Tree Center. With the National Cemetery and Laurel’s steeped tradition in Americanism this can be a huge event for many years to come.  Most of the clubs in Billings have stepped up and given sponsorship to the event and Laurel is allowing other clubs to volunteer to help man the ambassador station as well.

The Downtown Club will be working the Montana Fair serving beer on the concourse.  The fair will last 8 days and they will have members working the entire event.

The Heights Exchange Club is on their summer schedule, so I have not had a chance to meet with them yet.  Their next meeting is August 15th so I will attend that and have things to report.

The West End Exchange Club just hosted an all club social.  They are avidly looking for fund raising ideas as well as venues at which to donate their time.  Their next meeting will be August 16th and so I will meet with them then.

As a Division, we are working on an all Division Facebook page and that will launch soon.  We are planning on building a club in Sheridan and with all five clubs working in it, I think it can be a huge success.

**Division 3:**

**Tom was absent due to surgery**

**Division 4:**

JR reported that they received a request from the City of Idaho Falls to help decorate on Veteran’s appreciation night at the War Bonnet Round-Up (Idaho’s oldest rodeo).  We positioned about 80 flags around the rodeo grounds including around a tank that was brought in.  We were able to get onto the very tight rodeo schedule for a check presentation of $6,000 to the Military Affairs Committee to help with Veteran needs.  Our club has been looking for ways to get exposure for the many good deeds we do, so our presentation in front of 5,000 spectators was perfect.  On Wednesday night a small group of club members assemble a complete the task of sending thank you letters to all those individuals and companies that supported our Field of Honor efforts in May.  They had their summer picnic last night with excellent attendance by the club members and other guests.  They did more in the way of providing financial support to organizations fighting against child abuse.  A check for $3,000 was presented to Building Hope Today an organization that has been successful in setting precedence in the court system allowing for the prosecution of individuals who can be shown to be guilty of “grooming” their victims.  Another $2500 was presented to Shannon Fox who has been training individuals and facilitators in the Stewards of Children program.  They need to find a fall or winter fundraising activity to support our Ace Scholarship program and the “Give a Kid a Flag to Waive” program for the 4th of July.  Flag building continues as a club they have assembled approximately 150 of the 1000 in preparation of next year’s Field of Honor.

**Division 5:**

Jim reported that clubs in Treasure Valley are doing fine with activities progressing as usual.  Nampa just finished their support and fund raiser of the Snake River Stampede Rodeo and the Caldwell club is now starting their support and fund raiser of the Caldwell Night Rodeo series.  Boise club added three (3) new members via their association with MeetUp within the past two months.

**V.     Old Business:**

**A.**Leif said District office tally is 15 clubs for an Official District minimum. District standards of Programs of Service and leadership development.  Leif mentioned Kathy in Bozeman and helping her become a leader and encouraged asking others to identify leaders and President Elect over the next three years.

**VI.    New Business:**

**A.**   **O.U.R Idaho / Montana**

Leif mentioned Operation Underground Railroad. He thinks they are well funded but not so sure.He thinks the Exchange working in partnership with them against human trafficking would raise awareness and go toward the Mission of Child Abuse Prevention. Tony said that after the Convention, Mr. Ballard spoke at Breakfast Club.  It a mentioned that the Hole in One event on September 8thand they (O.U.R) will be the recipients of the million dollar.  The hope is to develop some sort of working relationship and our members being big proponents and maybe get members trained to have advocates in Billings Clubs. Le said he has one contact and there is a level above he doesn't have that number.

**B.**  **Building Hope Today**

 Idaho Falls is building Hope Today, a successful organization with a training program they want to train and teach grooming techniques to Police and resource officers.  Tracy has reviewed their information and sees the potential to partnership and help them go National.   The grooming part doesn't have an organization that teaches and informs. This program could go along with child abuse prevention without the overhead of a CAP.

**C.  District minimum standards**

Leif said District office tally is 15 clubs for an Official District minimum. District standards of Programs of Service and leadership development.  Leif mentioned Kathy in Bozeman and helping her become a leader and encouraged asking others to identify leaders and President Elect over the next three years.

**AA.** **Growth.** Leif said Focus on ways to develop our Programs of Service.

**BB.** **Leadership development.**  Leif mentioned  helping others become leader. Recruit talent, encouraged others to identify leaders and President Elect over the next three years.

**CC. Service Programs**

Focus on District standards of Programs of Service. Developing partnerships and other pro- active programs that serve our Child Abuse Prevention mission.

**DD. Training, Exchange University**

Encourage directors to reach out to club Presidents on University to get the minimum standards met.

**EE.  District Newsletter**

District newsletter ideas for reporting on clubs and member. Focusing on the Culture of Growth and posting on Face Book.  More communication may ignite more ideas.  Discussion proceeded, and it was mentioned that a Newsletter may be outdated and social media would be more applicable to our members and prospective members.   Leif said that it is important to stay relevant and this would be great way to create unity and share information across the District.  Club's could share information on their wins and successes. This can also be a platform for offering ideas to grow other programs that fit our mission such as the Veterans Meatlocker or to offer ideas to struggling clubs.  The Missoula Club is currently addressing their issues to determine how to reduce their costs and entice membership. Ideas they are looking at are reducing the membership dues or the costs of meals.  Other clubs have faced similar issues and may have suggestions.

Tony said that one of the member in the Breakfast Club is helping him with the Facebook page and Tony thinks Tanner would he!p set up a page for District.  Led six become relevant. Cindi asked Tony about if a link could be added from each Club page that could link to District' page.  Tony said he will ask Tanner.

**VII. District President remarks**

Les had no more commentary.

**VIII.**Next board meeting scheduled November 5, 2018 - 5:00 p.m.

*teleconference*

**VIIII.** Adjourn