

The Rotary Clubs of Gainesville Foundation, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
August 9th, 2017

The RCGF met on August 9th, 2017, at the North Florida Safety Council facility. Present were: Chairman Mary Kate Walker, President Buddy Irby (2018 Wild Game Feast Master & Admiral of the 2017 Seafood Spectacular), Wesley Eubank, Greg Fleming, Dana Nemenyi (Telephone), Greg Young, David Gracy, Mathew Braddy, Jenni Van Hart Jim Craig (Go To Meeting), Ed Book, Steven Dalton, Chad King, Bob Robar, Kirk Smith, Ernie Turbyfill and Beth Graetz.

Chairman Mary Kate Walker called the meeting to order at 5:43 PM. Mary Kate then turned the proceedings over to President Buddy Irby.

Topics of discussion were:

- I. Motion by Buddy Irby to approve minutes from last meeting, seconded by David Gracy. All in approval.
- II. Club presented project: Ed Book introduced Michelle Parker and Gigi Simmons with The City of Gainesville Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department. Ms. Parker presented the Proposed Rotary Generations Recreation Play Zone at Northside Park. They presented a multi-faceted recreation Play Zone. The presentation included; conceptual drawings, benefits to the community, benefits to Rotary, possible Rotary Recognition, charts, and examples of generations recreational games. They stated that there would be matching funds from the Wild Spaces & Public Spaces tax. Time line is about two years.
- III. Club presented project: Jenni Van Hart introduced Charlie Houder, John Morris, Kim Smith, Claudia Tuck and Gina Peebles with Alachua County (multiple departments). There were also three veteran groups present as well; Jim Yakubsin from the Marine Corps League and Veterans Court, Duane Romine Chair of the Veteran Services Advisory Board and Al Harrison President of the Veterans Memorial Committee. They presented Rotary International Splash Pad at Veterans Memorial Park. They presented conceptual drawings and the impact on the local community. They stated that there was money in the budget and if we participated that it would help speed up the commitments to get the park built sooner. This project will incorporate funds from the Wild Spaces & Public Spaces tax as well. Time line is about two years.
- IV. Jim Craig attended by going on-line by Go To Meeting. This is an on-line meeting format that was set up by Wes Eubank. The board members thanked Wes for setting this up for our meetings.
- V. Ryan Kremser with Rotaract presented the playground for The St. Francis House of Gainesville. The playground equipment, that was initially installed, has completely deteriorated and has been removed from service. This leaves a need for new

commercial grade playground equipment. The budget is \$30,000.00 and they are applying for a district grant which requires 100% matching funds.

- VI. The board recognizes Ernie Turbyfill for a job well done for the WGF of 20116.
- VII. Open floor discussion of funding for the two proposed parks. Jim Craig motioned to fund both parks at \$50,000.00 for each park on an annual basis, with a two year commitment. This will provide \$100,000.00 to each park over a two year period of time. The motion was seconded by David Gracy. All voted in approval.
- VIII. There was a motion by Mary Kate Walker to fund the Rotaract St. Francis House playground initiative for \$5,000.00. This motion was seconded by Beth Graetz. All in approval. Jenni Van Hart volunteered to start a Go Fund Me page to help raise funds for the project.
- IX. Mary Kate Walker recommended to approve Beth Graetz, of the Greater Gainesville Club, as a board member. Seconded by Jenni Van Hart. All in approval.
- X. Buddy Irby floated the idea of providing a Wild Game Feast Hall of Fame for the Wild Game Feast Site. They will begin researching the funding requirements and the construction of the plaque.
- XI. Harvey Baxter presented the Dictionary Project. This project funds providing dictionaries to all 3rd grade Alachua County School students, 2345 students for 2017. The cost for the cheaper dictionaries is \$4,600.00 and the cost for the nicer dictionaries is \$6,238.00. This project is rotated annually among the Alachua County clubs. It is Greater Gainesville's turn this year. Wes Eubank motioned that we provide \$25.00 for each ticket sold to the WGF. This would be limited to approximately \$1,600.00 per club for the larger clubs and \$800.00 for the smaller clubs. Total amount to not exceed \$6,000.00. Seconded by Mary Kate Walker. All in approval.
- XII. Ernie Turbyfill attended the Boys & Girls Club construction meeting. The monies set aside from previous WGF's are being matched as promised and construction will start in September of 2017. The Boys & Girls Club presented Rotary with a plaque thanking us for our funding.
- XIII. The board recognized; Ernie Turbyfill, Buddy Irby, Wes Eubank and Kirk Smith for attending the Florida Food Service show in St. Augustine as we annually research new foods for the WGF and Seafood Spectacular.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.