

THE MR FOUNDATION OF TN, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 9, 2005
Montgomery Bell State Park
Burns, Tennessee

The Board meeting was called to order at 12:30pm by President Mike Drew.

Directors present were: Ray Alves, Michael R Drew, William J. Maier PSD, William Gunter PSD, Carlton Russell, Michael Anderjack, William Wicke Health Services Chairman, Jim Simpson, C. Michael Horten PSD, Dan Romer PSD, and General Counsel Gino Marchetti. Guest: Richard Bevington – Director Emeritus. Rev. Philip Breen, Chaplain, State Deputy Marty O’Haver, Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen were excused.

OPENING PRAYER

The prayer was offered by Director Alves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Directory Alves, Second by Director Simpson to approve the minutes as presented. Passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Wicke distributed a copy of the Undistributed Council Balance report. Due to a computer, problem he was not able to provide copies of the current financials. Treasurer Wicke will forward financial statements to each Director. He did report a current checking account balance of \$168,581.99. Treasurer Wicke reported Edward Jones Investments were continuing to make calls on investment instruments. Treasurer Wicke has written off the book the 2 deposits that did not clear the banks for the last couple of years. There has been some progress made but this is still an issue to be resolved with First Tennessee Bank. Treasurer Wicke stated he had several boxes of records to be given to Director Emeritus Harold Schaeffen to begin his audit of the Foundation records. President Drew will take the records back to Memphis and present the materials to Mr. Schaeffen. An audit report is expected before our next meeting.

Motion by Director Maier, second by Director Alves to accept the Treasurer’s report. Passed.

DRIVE REPORT

Vice President Dan Romer presented the Drive Report because Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen was unable to attend the meeting. Drive Chairman Nolen’s employment has caused him to be temporary relocated outside the country. The report is as follows:

Through April 7, 2005, we have received \$197,588 from 52 councils. 27 councils did better than they did last year and 11 of them did better than they have ever done. That's the good news. The bad news is we are \$3,900 behind last year at this time and \$38,000 shy of the 2002/2003 final total of \$235,875. The remaining 22 non-reporting councils, that we can expect to hear from, produced \$39,500 last year. So it looks as though a final total of \$230,000 is mildly optimistic. Unfortunately, it will be November before we reach our final total. At the State Convention we will acknowledge certain accomplishments as we have done in the past. Each of the top 5 councils in amount turned in, collections per members, amount of increase over previous best, and percentage of increase over previous best will be recognized for what they have done. Plaques will be given to Councils 544, 4563, 4572, 5062, 6730, 8083, 8152, 8273, 8781, 12633, 12838. Council 12961 Seymour will be recognized for participating in its 1st drive.

Motion by Director Maier, second by Director Anderjack to accept the report. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Carry Over Grants

Grant 04-12 – Council 12012 for TN Protection and Advocacy Inc. The Directors heard a report from General Council Gino Marchetti indicating there was no legal restrictions to the Foundation contributing to a lobbying group as long as it wasn't a significant contribution. After a general discussion it was concluded that Foundation Grant contributions to this organization may not be within the scope of the Charter as outlined in Item #5 of the Charter. Motion by Director Gunter, Second by Director Maier to deny the grant request. Motion passed.

Grant 04-16 – Council 7086 for Carey Counseling Center. Director Simpson visited the facility and reviewed the driveway. During the Directors discussion it was concluded that the driveway paving did not directly help MR clients in a significant manner. It was concluded that grading of the parking lot could serve the same purpose. The Board referred to Item #5 of the Charter to make its decision. Motion by Director Gunter, Second by Director Anderjack to deny the request. Motion passed.

Vehicle Chairman Bill Maier reported he still has a vehicle request from Council 544 but has not received the necessary documentation. Director Maier will give Council 544 until the next Board meeting to provide the data or he will drop the Vehicle Grant Request from further consideration.

Scholarships

Mike Horten distributed a copy of the draft Scholarship proposal. Mike noted he received positive input from Dr. Robert Christopher M.D – Director Emeritus. There was discussion among the Directors concerning scholarship for individuals in Masters Programs. After the discussion, there was one minor change to be made and the Scholarship proposal will be presented at the Tennessee State Council meeting on Sunday, May 1, 2005. Without objection by the members present, the scholarship program will go into effect.

NEW BUSINESS

Grants Committee

Chairman Horten acknowledged four grant requests. 3 grants were matching fund requests and forwarded directly to Treasurer Wicke for disbursement in accordance with the current policy. The remaining grant for consideration was Grant 04-17 from Council 8576 for Area 4 Special Olympics. The amount requested was \$750.00. Mike Horten read a letter he received directly from Ms. Lindy Blazek, Area 4 coach that outlines a total need of \$5,000. Mike stated the council request of \$750.00 was based on a

letter the council received from Ms. Blazek requesting a \$500.00 donation. Mike reported on his phone call with Ms. Blazek and she needed \$2,000.00 for transportation needs alone. Director Horten made a motion to fund the Grant Request at \$2,500.00 which was second by Director Alves. During the discussion, Director Bill Gunter noted the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council strongly supports Special Olympics and there will be a special presentation at the Tennessee State Convention to Special Olympics representatives. Motion passed.

Vehicle Grants

Chairman Bill Maier presented one vehicle grant from Council 8273 Harriman. The request was for \$20,000 for a bus for Michael Dunn Center. The request amounts to 50% of the total cost of the vehicle. Chairman Maier moved for approval, second by Director Gunter. Passed.

HOME REPORTS

Memphis – Vice-President Romer reported everything continues to run smoothly.

Newbern – President Drew reported everything was fine. The clients are looking forward to receiving their vacation money for their annual trip.

Morristown – No report.

South Fulton – Director Maier reported no new requests from the home.

Cowan – Director Anderjack reported all is well.

Clarksville – Director Anderjack showed a video of the Christmas Party at the group home. Everything else is okay at this time.

Sumner Special Housing – Director Gunter reported on the progress to completion of the pavilion. The pavilion was highlighted in a local publication. The home association is attempting to sell the home at 125 W. Jackson Street. The home is underutilized and by selling the property the proceeds can be used to build another home and/or pay off the mortgage on the other homes recently built.

Special Housing – Director Simpson was unable to contact the association President. Director Emeritus-Bevington noted the Fire Department has ordered that sprinklers be installed into the homes. The anticipated cost is \$20,000.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Drew reported receiving 4 nominations for Director. 3 nominations were for existing Directors (Anderjack, Horten, and Simpson). The other remaining nomination was for PSD Paul Nelson of Council 8576. The Board discussed the qualifications of each individual, their current and potential future contributions to the Board of Directors. President Drew noted the ever increasing need to find potential Directors with a solid financial background. There was a motion by Bill Maier and second by Bill Wicke to place all 4 names in nomination and to increase the Board by 1 additional Director. Motion passed.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Ray Alves, second by Carlton Russell to contribute \$100.00 to Skills Development Center, Tullahoma, Tennessee for the fund raising golf tournament. Motion passed.

Motion by Dan Romer, second by Bill Maier to fund \$1,000 for plaques for the up coming State Convention. Motion passed.

Mike Horten read an article for a recent edition of Knightline relating to “Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities”. The article related to the ever difficult process of communicating and discussing topics relating to individual with mental retardation. The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council has adopted the statement “Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities” and encouraged each region to determine its proper statement. Mike Horten will make copies of the article for presentation at the State Convention meeting.

Motion by Dan Romer, second by Jim Simpson to allocate \$5,000 for a MR Foundation of Tennessee, Inc. promotional program with the 2005-06 MR Drive. This could include shirts, coffee mugs, etc. Motion passed.

Motion by Bill Wicke, second by Jim Simpson to present a check in the amount of \$2,500 to the Tennessee Special Olympics at the Tennessee State Council Convention. This would be in addition to the check being presented by State Deputy Marty O’Haver. This would show the Foundation’s support of this worthy organization. Motion passed.

STATE CONVENTION REPORT

Director Gunter reported good progress on the 2005 State Council Convention in Kingsport on April 29-May 1, 2005.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 29, 2005 at Montgomery Bell State Park. President Drew indicated that Montgomery Bell State Park may be available in January and/or February 2006 for a meeting. He will continue to investigate a possible date and make the necessary reservations.

The closing prayer was offered by Director Jim Simpson.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51pm

Respectfully submitted by

C. Michael Horten PSD
Secretary