

THE MR FOUNDATION OF TENNESSEE, INC.
STATE CONVENTION MEETING
MAY 1, 2005
KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE

MR Foundation President Mike Drew opened the meeting at 10am.

Foundation Treasurer Bill Wicke distributed the annual Income, Expenditures and Fund Balance reports to the delegates present. The net Drive Receipts were \$238,202.46. There is a Net Fund Balance as of November 30, 2004 of \$580,262.82 less Undistributed Council Balances of \$54,092.35 which leaves Net Available Foundation Funds of \$526,170.47.

Foundation Vice-President Dan Romer made a presentation for Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen. As of April 22, 2005, 54 councils had turned their collections into the Foundation. The total to date is \$202,282.04. Twenty-six councils exceeded their previous year production, eleven councils had new all time collections. The councils cited were 3832 Alcoa/Maryville, 4563 Murfreesboro, 4572 Cleveland, 5062 Whitehaven, 5207 Knoxville, 7447 Columbia, 8083 Savannah, 8354 Antioch, 12633 Lenoir City, 12838 Jefferson City, 12961 Seymour.

There are 81 councils in the state and only 54 have reported. Last year, 14 additional councils reported drive proceeds after the convention and we are hopeful of the same this year. Our expectation of generating \$230,000 is mildly optimistic, but still less than the \$239,127 generated from the 2000/2001 drive and \$235,873 from 2002/2003.

President Drew called on Director Horten. Director Horten distributed 2 items for review by the delegates. The first was a copy from the Knights of Columbus Knightline newsletter. This was a PS Supplement article "*Addressing People with Intellectual Disabilities*". Director Horten noted the article stressed that councils should be sensitive to this issue of individuals with mental retardation. The Supreme Council had chosen to use the phrase "People with Intellectual Disabilities" and in Canada the phrase "People with an Intellectual Disability." Director Horten noted the Foundation had found the phrase "Person(s) with Mental Retardation" seemed acceptable across the state. Director Horten noted council could use either phrase or any other that might fit there areas as long as donors realized the funding would only be distributed to an agency in the area of mental retardation and holding a 501(c)3 IRS designation. There was minor discussion over changing the name of the Foundation to a more "politically correct" format but President Drew noted this might include changing the Charter and other areas.

The second item presented by Director Horten was a Scholarship Program to be funded by the Foundation. The scholarship is available to a person with mental retardation or an individual seeking a Master's degree in Special Education. In 2006, the Foundation will evaluate the forms received and choose three \$500.00 scholarships winners. The Foundation will distribute the \$1,500 to MR Helping Hands, a 501(c) 3 IRS designated agency, for distribution to an elementary, secondary, college or university financial aid

department in the name of the winner. There was a motion and second to accept the scholarship plan. Motion passed.

President Drew proceeded to the election of Foundation Directors. President Drew stated there were 3 Directors whose terms were ending. The Directors were Mike Anderjack, Jim Simpson and Mike Horten. There were four nominations submitted to the Foundation. The nominations submitted were Paul Nelson, PSD, Jim Simpson, Mike Anderjack and Mike Horten PSD. The Board voted to expand the Board by an additional Director this year. President Drew entertained a motion to accept the slate as presented. Motion made and passed.

There was some continued discussion on mental retardation verbiage and drive materials. President Drew noted these issues will be reviewed and addressed at the Kick Off meetings in July 2005.

There was no other business presented and the meeting was closed at 10:25am.

Respectfully submitted:

C. Michael Horten PSD
Secretary