

THE MR FOUNDATION OF TN, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 29, 2005
Montgomery Bell State Park
Burns, Tennessee

The Board meeting was called to order at 12:14pm by President Mike Drew.

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

OPENING PRAYER

The prayer was offered by State Deputy Marty O'Haver.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Secretary Mike Horten noted one omission to the minutes of April 9, 2005. Under the Grants report, add Grant 05-01 from Council 8576 Chattanooga for Area 4 Special Olympics in the amount of \$750.00. After discussion concerning the scope of the request, the Board approved \$2,000. Motion by Director Alves, Second by Director Anderjack to approve the minutes as amended. Passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Wicke distributed a copy of the Undistributed Council Balance report and Financial Statements. Treasurer Wicke noted the Undistributed Council Balance continues to decline. This is viewed as a very positive measure that councils are using their portion of the fund drive in their communities. Treasurer Wicke reported that Edward Jones continues to recall all but 7,000 units/funds. Monies have been deposited into the Foundation Cash account. Director Russell noted the \$13,500 receivable listed for Sumner Special Housing was forgiven at the last meeting. This was correct and will be removed. President Drew recommended that the outstanding deposit in the amount of \$781.25 be written off. There has been a significant effort made to resolve this with First Tennessee Bank without success. The Board voted to write off. Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen suggested the Foundation give serious consideration to moving the checking account to an institution that provides interest on balances.

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

DRIVE REPORT

Director Dan Romer and State Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen presented the Drive Report. Director Romer reported on the 2004-05 drive year which ends November 30, 2005. The total collected to date is \$219,452.78 from 61 councils. This was the 6th highest amount collected in the history of this effort. Leading the way for 2004-05 was Morristown Council 6730 with \$13,706.12, Farragut Council 8781 with \$13,139.50 and Crossville Council 8152 with \$13,100. A total contribution received over the last 30 years is \$4,833,076. Chairman Hunter Nolen reported on the 2005-06 Drive with collections to date of \$1,171.

Motion by Director Maier, second by State Deputy O'Haver to accept the reports. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Report of Elections (Directors)

President Mike Drew reported on Director elections at the Knights of Columbus State Convention held in Kingsport, Tennessee. Elected to the Board were Mike Horten, Michael Anderjack, Jim Simpson and Paul Nelson.

Director Horten suggested that the Foundation Board actively recruit new Board members. There have been few general nominations received.

Carry Over Grants

None

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

President – Nomination by Director Maier, second by Director Nelson to elect Mike Drew as President. No other nominations made and Mike Drew elected by acclamation.

Vice President – Nomination by Director Maier to elect Dan Romer. Director Romer declined the nomination. Nomination by Director Russell, second by Director Maier to elect Michael Anderjack as Vice President. No other nominations made and Michael Anderjack elected by acclamation.

Treasurer – Nomination by Director Maier, second by Director Alves to elect Bill Wicke as Treasurer. No other nominations made and Bill Wicke elected by acclamation.

Secretary – Nomination by Director Alves, second by Director Maier to elect Mike Horten as Secretary. No other nominations made and Mike Horten elected by acclamation.

President Mike Drew noted the need for the Board to consider the position of Assistant Treasurer. Current Treasurer Bill Wicke is considering resigning as Treasurer before he assumes the office as State Deputy.

Assistant Treasurer - Nomination by Director Alves, second by Director Maier to elect Eric Pelton as Assistant Treasurer. No other nomination made and Eric Pelton elected by acclamation.

Grants Committee

Chairman Horten acknowledged four grant requests. One Grant was a matching fund request by Council 5062 Whitehaven for Memphis Group Home in the amount of \$1,000. This request was forwarded directly to Treasurer Wicke for disbursement in accordance with the current policy.

Other Grants reviewed by the Grants Committee:

Grant 05-02 from Council 4312 Memphis in the amount of \$2,000 for Madonna Learning Center. The money will be used for tuition for two MR students whose fathers had lost their jobs. This grant was approved by the Grants Committee.

Grant 05-03 from Council 9754 Camden in the amount of \$1,000 for Carroll County Special Learning Center. The money will be used to update the playground. This grant was approved by the Grants Committee.

Grant 05-04 from Council 10743 Elizabethton in the amount of \$1,000 for Small Miracles Therapeutic Horseback Riding Center, Inc. The money will be used to purchase 2 saddles for MR students. This grant was approved by the Grants Committee.

Chairman Horten presented 3 additional grants for consideration by the Board. Each Grant was received within the last week so the Grants Committee had taken no action.

Grant 05-05 was submitted by District Deputy Jerry Burdision for Sister Ruth Ann Catholic School. The amount on the grant was \$5,000,000. The money requested would be used to assist students with mental retardation such as Down Syndrome. There was discussion on the merits of the grant request but the grant was submitted in error. The Grants Policy requires the Grand Knight of the council sign the form. There was no program financial data or demographics included with the grant as well as the need to clarify the amount requested. Motion by State Deputy Marty O'Haver, second by Director Nelson to table the grant until these issues can be resolved. Passed.

Grant 05-06 from Council 4312 Memphis for United Cerebral Palsy of the Mid South. The grant is for \$15,000 to supplement their UCP Day Services program. Motion by Director Russell to provide \$5,000. There was no second to the motion. Director Romer suggested the money be given to the Christopher Fund at UCP and Director Russell agreed to amend his motion. The motion was voted down. After further discussion, there was a motion by Director Gunter, second by Director Nelson to fund the grant as presented. Motion passed.

Grants Chairman Horten read a letter from Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz D.D. Bishop of Knoxville. Treasurer Wicke noted Bishop Kurtz was searching for additional funds for the diocesan Office of Disability Awareness. There should be a Grant request by the next board meeting. President Drew assigned Grant number 05-07 for this request.

Vehicle Grants

Chairman Maier presented three vehicle grants.

Vehicle Grant 05-02 from Morristown Council 6730. The amount requested was \$19,586.00. All the proper paperwork was included and Chairman Maier moved for approval. Second by Director Wicke. Passed.

Vehicle Grant 05-03 from Council 8083 Savannah. All required document was not included and the grant request was tabled.

Vehicle Grant 05-04 from Council 544 Nashville for New Horizons. The requested amount was \$4,000. Chairman Maier moved to approve the request, second by Director Wicke. Passed.

There as a request made for a vehicle for Thomas Stone and the Court Jesters. The proper documentation has not been received. Motion by Director Wicke, second by Director Nelson to table until the next meeting.

There was a request submitted by District Deputy David Dallas to reimburse C.S. Patterson Center for a van that had been purchased. The request is outside the parameters for the Vehicle Policy and this request was denied.

Mike Drew received a letter from Rhea of Sunshine center in Dayton, Tennessee requesting consideration for a vehicle. Council 11424 will provide the necessary paperwork for consideration at the next Board meeting.

Chairman Maier led a discussion concerning submission of Vehicle Request Forms. Many councils and agencies are not attaching the required paperwork. This leads to delays in processing their request. Chairman Maier distributed a modified form for review. The consensus of the Board was the form was difficult to read with smaller font. Chairman Maier and President Drew will review the current Vehicle Policy and Request Form and report back at the next meeting.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Director Horten, Second by Director Wicke to continue the current matching funds policy for another 12 months. Passed.

Motion by Director Horten, second by Director Maier to continue director mileage reimbursement at \$0.22 per mile for the next 12 months.

President Mike Drew made the following appointments for the next 12 months.

Grants Chairman – Mike Horten
Vehicle Chairman – Bill Maier
State Drive Chairman – Hunter Nolen

Motion by Director Wicke, second by Director Anderjack to accept the appointments. Passed.

Mike Drew noted the need to appoint a committee for the Scholarship program. Mike appointed Dan Romer, Bill Gunter, Paul Nelson and himself. This gives representation for all three dioceses and a Foundation officer.

State Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen reported the Foundation Post Office box fee will expire on 12/1/2005. He asked the need to continue to maintain a post office box. There was a general discussion and the Board concluded it was best to maintain the box for another year.

State Drive Chairman Hunter Nolen asked the Board to consider action to change the business year from December 1 to July 1 of each year. This would require a change to the Foundation By-laws and approval from the IRS. Assistant Treasurer Eric Pelton noted it would take approximately 8-10 weeks to get approval from the IRS but did not see any reason for objection. This would require a 7 month annual report for financials but this would match the Foundation year with the Knights of Columbus fraternal year. The Board approved to change the By-laws subject to getting the approval of the IRS.

HOME REPORTS

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

Newbern – President Drew reported everything was fine.

Morristown – No report.

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

Cowan – No report.

Clarksville – Director Anderjack has a meeting scheduled with the home board. The management company appears to perform well but that can not be said about the home board.

Sumner Special Housing – Director Gunter reported the 2004 Annual report and minutes have been distributed. The home on West Jackson did not sell at auction but has been placed with 2 realtors.

Special Housing – Director Simpson was not present but Director Emeritus Bevington reported a sprinkler system had been installed in two homes. Water pressure was below an acceptable level and it cost \$26,000 to correct. There is still a concern over the 4 person occupant limit to the Middle Tennessee homes.

President Drew asked General Counsel Gino Marchetti to comment to the “Farm House”. This property was leased to the Foundation by the State of Tennessee. There are individuals in the house that must be evicted. Afterwards it is suggested that the Foundation give the property back to the State since it will not be used for the purposes intended.

President Drew reported on a meeting held with Council 12961 Seymour at the Knights of Columbus Knoxville kick off meeting. Council 12961 wanted to start a foundation in honor of George Kurtz (deceased brother of Bishop Kurtz of Knoxville). After meeting with the Council, it was decided that the Foundation could establish a specific account within the Undistributed Funds grouping for the “Kurtz Fund”. Councils could decide to contribute a portion of Council funds to the separate fund that would be solely utilized for Down Syndrome agencies. The Board approved establishing the Kurtz Fund account.

President Drew informed the Board of an award he accepted on behalf of the Foundation from the Silver Fox’s. The Silver Fox’s is a group of Knights from Council 8860 Collierville that work with students at Madonna Learning Center with wood working skills. This has been a very successful program and some funding has been made possible by the Foundation.

State Deputy Marty O’Haver reported the Knights of Columbus Mid Year meeting will be held at St. Ann Catholic church in Nashville on Saturday, December 5, 2005.

Good of the Order

Secretary Mike Horten read a thank you card from Director Emeritus Harold Schaefer for the flowers sent for his wife Gertrude’s funeral.

Mike Horten thanked the Board for their expressions of kindness at the death of his wife, Claudette.

President Drew asked the Board for prayers for Director Emeritus Dr. Robert Christopher with the advent of Hurricane Wilma.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2006 at Montgomery Bell State Park.

The closing prayer was offered by Director Dan Romer

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm

Respectfully submitted by

C. Michael Horten PSD
Secretary