

John A. King, FDM  
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John R. Janicek, CPA  
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Greenbrier

William G. Gunter, PSD, FDM  
Secretary  
Mount Juliet

L. Gino Marchetti  
Legal Counsel  
Nashville

**The M.R. Foundation of Tennessee, Inc.**  
8485 Dulwich Road    Cordova, Tennessee 38016-5186  
**a Knights of Columbus sponsored charity**  
*servicing people with intellectual disabilities*

**Minutes of April 14, 2012 MR Board Meeting**  
**Hats Facility, Gallatin, TN**

**Members in attendance were; President King, VP Porter, Secretary Gunter, Health Services Park, Directors Wicke, Headley, Rounsefell, Nestler, Johnson, Laufenberg, and State Deputy Wills. Legal Council Marty Duke also was present. Excused were Father Kenny, Jim Simpson, John Janicek, and Hunter Nolen. Absent were Tom Spencer, George Hirtz, Dale Foust, Jack McCusker and Andy Vrba.**

**President King called the meeting to order at 9:12am with the opening prayer. He had his opening remarks, telling the board members what a privilege it is to work with all of us and do what we are doing to help those individuals with the intellectual disabilities we try to assist. He then ask us to get in touch with our assigned councils and attend a meeting to give an overview of what we need to do to have everyone on the same page. John then asks if everyone had a copy of the tele-conference minutes of February 15, 2012. After the response of yes, Fred Laufenberg made a motion to accept the minutes as written if no corrections were necessary, seconded and approved as written.**

**Bill Wicke was then ask to give the Drive update, (Bill is filling in for Hunter Nolen in his absence), Bill stated that less than half of the councils had submitted drive funds, but from the 39 that did, he had received about \$197,000. Several councils have set new records for income and council 544 gave the foundation a check for \$26,000.00 from the sale of the clubhouse. Several of the new councils have already submitted funds by doing there first drives and Bill seems to think we'll be on track to bring in possibly \$250,000.00 this year.**

**Several directors commented on the late turning in of money from the councils, and the date of January 31 was suggested for it to happen so they would be eligible for awards at the State Convention each year. Visiting the councils was again brought up, to give them a better understanding of why they need to write that check after they conduct their drive. The money is collected for the MR Foundation, and it belongs to the Foundation. The sooner we get it the sooner they can draw there 50% to help those in there communities.**

**At the Kickoff and Mid-year meetings it was suggested that the foundation, when giving their presentation, have bullet points to explain the procedures about co-mingled funds and why it shouldn't happen. As directors, we made a commitment to visit; every one of us needs to re-affirm we will talk with the GK and Drive Chairmen on the proper procedures of handling the collected funds. Bob Rounsefell also suggested we contact the First TN Bank and see about all the councils that have to pay a service charge to the bank they are currently using, to change to First so there**

checking accounts would be free. It would be like an umbrella, because of the total monies the Foundation has with them in our accounts they wouldn't have to worry about minimum balances in theirs. SD Wills advised we should make this an option, and not mandatory. It also was suggested that the councils consider moving away from the late fall drives (around Thanksgiving) and moving them to possibility August when the stores have "tax free" weekend, and we contact our Diocese Papers to let everyone know the Knights will be soliciting that weekend.

The Friday presentation at the State Convention was next, and John ask that all who would be there Friday evening to assist in the room, hopefully we will have about 150 visitors for the event. It was suggested to contact Andy Telli to do an interview with SD Wills and John King about the Foundation and what it has done over the years to assist those with intellectual disabilities. Andy could get the interview to the other papers for us.

Different things were brought up, like having a Picnic at one of the group homes and inviting the area GK's and Drive chairman so they can see a home and clients and get a feel of why we have the Foundation. It was also suggested we contact Public TV stations to promote the Foundation on it's drive and who we cater too.

10 minute break, 10:30am 10:40am.

Bob Johnson had John Janicek's Treasurer's report paperwork and distributed it to the members, the only question was on the banks service charge, all the other payments and income was accepted and approved as presented.

Next were the Grant requests, in Jim Simpson's absence President King had the Grants to present.

G11-12 from Council 9132 Hendersonville for \$15,000.00 for Hand in Hand program at JP II HIGH SCHOOL to assist with the five students involved in the program. Grant Approved.

G12-12 from Council 8152 Crossville for \$3,050.00 for ARC of Cumberland County for Special Olympics expenses. Grant Approved.

G13-12 from Council 6099 Chattanooga for \$5,000.00 for Special Olympics Chattanooga Chill Ball Team travel expenses. Council 6099 has monies to be distributed, the GK will be contacted and Foundation will match up to \$2,500.00 if they donate \$2,500.00.

G14-12 from Council 12633 Loudon for \$3,686 for Special Olympics transportation costs. Council has funds to distribute; Foundation will contact GK and match \$ 1,843.00 if they donate \$1,843.00.

MR Home Report's next;

Bob Johnson gave the report on Sumner Special Housing; they currently support 4 homes in Gallatin and Portland and have begun the fund raising for a fifth home to begin construction in 2013. The Hats Inc. is doing a great job of managing the homes and placing clients in them.

**Jerry Headley gave a report on the Cowan Home and things are going well there also, Jerry stated that Council 3431 in Manchester is going to see about getting paperwork started on helping the home get a new van, the current van is over 12 years old with over 150,000 miles.**

**Fred Laufenberg gave a report on the homes in his area, he stated the Michael Dunn Center in Harriman has completed the repairs on one bathroom with the donations from the Foundation and are working on the other one. He also said the new Decal's for the Van's will be in place soon.**

**John King stated the MR Home in Morristown is still in need of additional funding due to a shortage in clients. Andy Vrba of Council 6730 will be at the State Convention and will ask those councils who are looking for a Home to assist, keep Morristown in the loop, this worked last year.**

**Jerry Headley also stated that Hunter Nolen had paid a visit to Mike Anderjack, said he had a positive attitude and would like visitors. He is in kidney failure and his daughter Chris has requested an Honor Guard for when he passes. It was suggested the Foundation make a donation to the Cowan Home in his Honor when it does happen.**

**The following terms will expire on June 30, 2012, John King, Bill Gunter, Bill Wicke, Jack McCusker, Byron Nestler, Fred Laufenberg. Each member is required to have his GK submit a request to the board for election, the only one not doing so is Bill Wicke, and he will resign his term. Since the Knoxville area has two directors it was suggested we look into the upper eastern portion of the state for a replacement. Tom Manning and John Graham's names were brought up and Mike Porter will contact them to see if there is any interest. John reminded all the members that when he took over as President, if you were resigning from the board, find a replacement.**

**Marty Duke was then ask if he had any comments from Gino's office and he said no, that he enjoyed being with us and looked forward to future visits, liked what he heard.**

**President King then asks Bill Gunter to close the meeting with a prayer and we would also do the blessing for lunch. Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.**

**After lunch, Bob Johnson took us on a tour of the Hats Facilities, showing us where the clients worked, the rest area for them and the facilities and what kind of work was involved. Since it was a Saturday, there were no clients in the facilities working. A very enlightening tour to say the least.**

**We then proceeded to drive about 6 miles to the Bethpage Home that was dedicated in honor of past President, Mike Anderjack. The home houses 3 ladies and a caregiver and is state of the art type dwelling for the clients. Everyone was impressed with the home and thanked Bob and Sumner Special Housing for taking on the responsibilities of the four homes they under see.**

**John King-President**

**By Bill Gunter-Secretary**



