

**Exchange Club of Rome**  
**Business Meeting May 4, 2018**  
**Minutes**

The May 4, 2018 Business Meeting was called to order at 12:00pm by President Charles Long. Invocation was given by Ronnie Farmer, and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Hal Gosnell. President Long reminded members to mute cell phones, or pay \$10 fine to the Family Resource Center if phones ring. Due to a temporary issue with the internal roster, this week's birthdays were not available, but will be announced next week. Steve White announced items of fellowship.

In the absence of Secretary Robert Smyth due to a community service commitment, President Long announced that minutes of the March business meeting are posted to the website and minutes of the April business meeting have been circulated. President Long asked for changes or discussion of the minutes for these two meetings. Buzz Wachsteter moved for acceptance of both sets of minutes, Bryan Shealy seconded, and the motion carried.

There was one item of correspondence, a thank you note from Julia Rutland, one of the candidates for Book of Golden Deeds, thanking us for her scholarship, the nomination, and lunch.

Treasurer Bob Steinbrugge gave the Treasurer's report as follows:

Operating Account: Opening Balance \$25,552.87; Deposits \$11,565.00; Expenditures \$7,512.32 for a Closing Balance of \$29,605.55

Programs & Activities Account: Opening Balance \$12,556.08; Expenditures (inclusive of transfer to Operating of deposit made to P&A in error of \$3,580) \$7476.08 for a Closing Balance of \$5,080.

Special Accounts: Flag Account \$1,200.44; Tomb Account \$361.83

On a motion by Harry Wise and a second by JP Cooper, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented. A copy of the report is attached.

Membership: Beginning membership for the month was 204. There were four resignations / removals – Renva Watterson (resignation), Brian Hampton (resignation), Dr. Randy Green (deceased), and John Youmans (deceased). There were no drops and no new member applications to be considered. There was one new member inducted, bringing the total membership to 200. Past president Mike Elliott inducted new member Lyndell Megginson, sponsored by Joel Megginson, Sr. On behalf of District President Sidney Blanton, District Director Mike Elliott presented a Conductor's Pin to Don Black for sponsoring a new member.

Coosa Valley Fair Report: In the Absence of Fair President Barbara Carter, First Vice President Mike Elliott gave the fair report. The May Fair Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 at the Palladium. The regular board meeting will be preceded by reports from all

Department Chairs. Department chairs and co-chairs are requested to attend. A short board meeting for all board members will follow. Ronnie Farmer will be in attendance to take new photographs of any officers, board members, and committee chairs and co-chairs who have not had updated photos made. Vice President Elliott also reported that President Carter and Len Woodward had visited a potential major fair sponsor and are waiting for a response to their request. He also stated that a flyover as part of the opening ceremony of the fair has some sponsorship opportunities in exchange for flying 2<sup>nd</sup> seat in one of the planes. Interested parties should see President Carter.

### Standing Committee Reports

Americanism: John Fortune announced that plans for Memorial Day activities are progressing well. All activities will be inside this year. Exhibits will be open in the Community Building from 9am until 2pm, and the Memorial Day Ceremony will be held from 11am until noon in the Paladium. Keynote speaker will be Retired Major General Douglas Carver.

Bill King reported that he has been told that we cannot display the Tomb Replica in the Visitors Center in Washington, DC as planned due to changes in the management of the parks in Washington, disallowing civilian displays. However, four members of the Exchange Club of Rome will still be traveling to Washington, DC to lay a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknowns on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Those members are Scottie Edwards, Gil Espy, Jim Belzer, and Bill King. Bill also said that he has been in touch with President Trump's office to make alternate plans for the tomb display at the White House. More than likely there will be a White House visit, a presentation of the tomb project, and a photo op with President Trump. He also said that he will conduct a one day training at the Paladium for club members wishing to volunteer to travel with the Tomb. This fall will be a very busy time and we need more volunteers. He also stressed that this is a project, not just of the Americanism Committee, but of the entire club.

Awards: Steve White reported that Awards are on track. Mike Elliott, Charles Long, Charles Norris, and Steve White will participate in the judging for Georgia District Awards on May 19<sup>th</sup>. They will be judging Small Club submissions.

Child Abuse Prevention: Larry Walker reported that April was a busy month for the Family Resource Center. Forty-eight families, comprising seventy-one parents and ninety-seven children, were served by the FRC in April. Also in April, FRC Executive Director Tina Bartleson led the effort of FRC staff to submit a proposal for funding through Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF). 105 hours were spent on the proposal. If awarded, the FRC will receive \$140,532 for services provided from 10/1/2018 through 9/30/2019. We will be required to match \$46,844. April was also National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Pinwheels representing confirmed cases of abuse and neglect were placed in front of the DFCS office. The number of people attending the ceremony was around 90, an increase of 30 over last year. Jim Talley reported that the Partners in Prevention Campaign is off to a good start. He thanked the Exchange Club members who had committed or given so far.

Community Service: George Fricks – No report.

Member Support / Social: Mike Elliott reminded everyone to plan on June 22<sup>nd</sup> of the annual officer installation meeting.

Programs: President Elect Charles Norris reported that all programs for the rest of the year have been scheduled except June 1<sup>st</sup>. Anyone with a program idea for this meeting should get in touch with Charles. May programs are as follows:

- May 11 – Speaker Ben Walker, a Holocaust Survivor
- May 18 – Rome Fire Department
- May 25 – Wanda Whitton with Miss Rome Scholarship Program

Public Relations: Phil Burkhalter reported that updated rosters have been printed and were on the tables for members to take with them.

Youth: Frank Shropshire was not present, but President Long reported that all youth programs are complete and commended the committee for an excellent job.

Toys for Tots: Linda Hatcher – no report.

Old Business: President Long reminded us the Jim Bishop Memorial Golf Tournament to benefit the FRC will be held May 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00. Teams are still being accepted.

President Long also reminded the club that reservations can still be made for District and National conventions.

Scottie Edwards reminded the members of the upcoming yard sale at the fairgrounds on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

New Business: Sherry Thompson announced that there will be a public hearing on May 9<sup>th</sup> from 10am until noon, sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain feedback on services provided by the agency and /or additional services needed for seniors. She encouraged participation by Exchangites.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Johnson for Robert Smyth