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***Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills***

 **Meeting of June 6, 2011.**

This week we welcomed a very interesting and well read visitor from the Bowmanville (east of Oshawa) Club named John (Jack) Risk.

The first matter on the agenda was the mailings that Secretary George had received. Firstly was a letter asking for a donation to the Dave Smith Foundation, with the funds to go to help those with alcohol and drug issues. Rotarian Gordon then said that we had already made a decision to support a local organization that does the same kind of work within Carleton Place.

Next, George then read a farewell message from Katie Burke as her term as the Governor of District 7040 was coming to an end. Her message was very upbeat and interesting despite its’ negative connotation.

Rotarian Gordon then brought up the next item for discussion. The Club has committed to the Almonte District High School to provide funds to support a student bursary. The graduation ceremony is being held on June 29 at 1:00 and Gordon needed a representative of the Club to present the award. Rotarian Mike tentatively agreed to be at the school. (He later sent an e-mail saying that he could not be there for that date and time).

Treasurer Robert was asked if there were any changes to the finances of the Club. He responded that were not, however, he was planning to have a year end statement ready for the end of the month, as it is the fiscal year end. President Al then said that once the statement was prepared that there would then be an audit performed and presented to the Executive. He then asked for volunteers to assist him, to which Gordon replied affirmatively.

Rotarian Bernie was then asked to speak about two projects. The first is one called Ryan’s Well which is a global foundation that provides water to undeveloped parts of the world. Bernie was asking the executive of the Club to consider supporting this initiative as part of the Club’s International support commitments.

Bernie then presented to the Club a copy of an e-mail from the people in Guatemala that we are working with for the hen house and seed initiative. One of the items in the e-mail was that the person (Clara Colop) in Guatemala who was coordinating the effort there was coming to the Ottawa region this October. Rotarian Mike was then asked to make the necessary arrangements for Clara to come to our Club at that time.

Gordon was asked to provide an update on the on-going issue of the Mississippi Mills Trail’s easements. He said that the church had decided to allow it, but the owners of the Old Barracks had not responded to his phone messages. It was then suggested to Gordon to arrange for a meeting with the parties involved.

Mike was then asked to give an up-date on the compost clean-up. He said that most of the remaining compost had been cleaned up and just required a final sweeping. He also asked if there was anyone from the Club that had space to store the tarp that was still on the site. A suggestion was made to ask Gerry.

President Al then asked if anyone had any idea as to the whereabouts of the Rotary banners that were from other Clubs. The general consensus was to ask Arthur when he returned from his trip abroad.

Mike then asked the Club if any of the members had any suggestions for speakers who could do a presentation at up-coming meetings. There were suggestions about a representative from Interval House and also the president of the hospital in town. Others also said that they had ideas but would have to get back to Mike.

Rotarian Doug said that he was unsuccessful in making contact with the people that run the Celt Fest in Almonte in order to arrange a 50/50 draw as a fund-raiser. President Al said that his wife knew the people that ran it and would provide the contact info to him.

Rotarian Jim spoke about the PR Committee’s need to have an “Action Plan” prepared for the new executive when they meet in July. He said that he would prepare a draft and then present it to the committee for their recommendations before presenting it to the executive.