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

**Meeting of January 9, 2012**

For this meeting we had all fourteen of our members present. We also had in attendance René-Paul Forier from the Au Sable, New York Club.

The meeting was started off by President George introducing Mr. Forier and then by asking Secretary Doug if he had any correspondence this week. Doug said that the only correspondence he had received was an e-mail from the guidance counselor of Notre-Dame High School saying that she would support our Club with any volunteers where possible once were to identify the projects.

Rotarian Gordon then asked to speak. He said that he followed up on the public announcement of our Club’s involvement with playground and discovered that the Trillium Foundation may have made the timing of the public announcement up to ourselves and the Town once the grant was received. However, he could not confirm this at the time and would follow up further. Rotarian Marion also said that she would look into the matter as well.

Marion then asked the Club if someone would be available the morning of February 3rd to drive an elderly lady into Kanata for he eye doctor appointment. Doug responded that he could do so. Marion was then to provide contact information to Doug to finalize the arrangements.

Al then said that he had provided George with the name of the person that owns the Barracks through a mutual friend. Gordon asked that George call him if he were to meet with this person in the near future.

George then turned the podium over to our guest René. He is the Assistant Director General for District 7040, a member of the Au Sable, New York Chapter and was there to talk about a special project that he is spear-heading. His project is to bring potable water and sanitation to people in Africa. He said that he will be travelling to Africa to work on this project this coming Sunday. Once he is in Africa he will eventually be travelling to Rwanda. His entire trip will be for seventeen days.

In order to fund this project, he had compiled a number of recipes from other Rotary members into a book. The cost of the book was $2.75 and he was selling them for $20 and to date had sold close to 700 books. He had travelled a total of 8750 miles throughout New York State, eastern Quebec and Ontario to talk to all of the Clubs in District 7040. Our Club was the very last, having spoken at the Perth Club earlier that day. When speaking about the recipes, he said that he had one published in the book. Following the meeting, a number of our members who purchased books had him sign their copies where his recipe appeared.

George then asked Rotarian Bernie to discuss his thoughts on the Guatemala goat project, the recently announced RYLA program and buying an engraved stone for Carleton Place’s new Market Square . He had gone through the price schedule provided by David Batchelor on the various components of this project and come to a conclusion on how the Club’s contribution should be spent. His suggestion was that we fund the purchase of four goats at $371US, plus 1000 pounds of feed, medicine and salt for $260US. The new RYLA conference will take place in Brockville this year and will run for a week at a cost of $925. Bernie also said that he had talked to Gary Strike about our Club buying an engraved stone to be mounted in the new Carleton Place Market Square at a cost of $150 for a 12” x 12” stone. Doug then interjected to say that he had also been in discussions with Gary Strike about the same matter. He said that Gary had decided to defer the installation of the stones until the spring due to the late finish of the construction on the site. He said that we could therefore budget for the payment of this expenditure following the receipt of our compost sales.

Rotarian Robert then asked for the floor. He said that he would support the expenditure for the goats as described by Bernie but would not support spending money on the RYLA program due to our financial situation. Gordon then spoke and agreed with Robert on his support of the various initiatives.

Gordon made a motion to support the expenditure for the goats as described by Bernie. The motion was then seconded by Rotarian Brian. George then asked the Club to vote. All were in favour of the motion without any negative votes. The motion was then passed.

Marion then made a motion to support the purchase of a stone in Market Square. This was seconded by Rotarian Al. George then asked the Club to vote on this new motion. The Club voted all in favour without any dissension.

The floor was then passed to Rotarian Mike who had been scheduled to speak to the Club about some new developments he had made in regard to the Club’s web site, but due to the lateness of the hour, there wouldn’t be sufficient time. Mike then suggested that he re-schedule the presentation until the meeting two weeks hence as we had a guest speaker planned for next week already. He also said that he would send out an e-mail with the new site’s URL.