

**Decatur Rotary Club #180
Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2007**

Board Members Present: Dave Brandon, Glen Dalluge, Lora Dills, Paula Finn, Steve Furrow, David Goebel, Melinda Hawbaker, Diane Knaebe, Jamie Maccari, Norma Maddio, Bryan Mikeworth, Lucy Murphy, Bill Owen, Pen Shade, Paul Stanzione, Heather Stoa, Andy Thomas, Bud Wilcox, Glenda Williamson

Other Rotarians Present: Noel Myers

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 by President Heather Stoa

Minutes from the January 18, 2007 meeting were approved

Correspondence: A thank you note was received from Katinka Kelleher, founder and chair of the Amor Y Vida Orphanage in Mérida Mexico. Heather will publish it in the newsletter.

Financial Report: No financial report was available.

Committee Reports:

Family: Mary Ann Koucky sent a get well card to Jackson Owens on behalf of the club

Penny Fund Recipients: Race for the Cure will be the June recipient. The name of the Penny Fund will be changed to **Do Good Dollars** and Sergeants at Arms will be asked to explain how the dollars will be used each month

Membership:

Potential New Members

Melanie Brown, DMH Foundation – Andy Thomas
Mike Cassell, DMH– Heather Stoa
Greg Crowe, City of Decatur – Robin Crowe (will be a guest on Monday)
Howard Edwards, SDMS – Heather Stoa
Lisa Gillen, Park District – Diana Knaebe
Kevin Hinton, Maverik Marketing – Steve Furrow
Bishop Livingston, President Robertson Charter School – Paul Stanzione
Mike Mize, Jan Master – Paul Stanzione
Mark Younker, Agency One and Younker House B&B – Andy Thomas (will be a guest on Monday)
Julie Schwalbe, Forever Facets – Norma Maddio
Brad Swartz, JJ Swartz Co. – Dave Brandon

New Members

Sue Watts, Georganne Sadomytschenko

Resignation

Mike Wakeland

Programs: Melinda/Glenda reported that the meeting on April 9th will be at the YMCA and the meeting on May 14th will be at St. Mary's Hospital. The majority of programs are booked through the end of June.

RYLA: Information has been sent to the schools. Anyone willing to help interview students should contact Tina Noland

Old Business:

Screen: Andy Thomas will check with Matt Drain to see when we can expect it to be delivered

Mérida, Mexico: Heather Stoa reported that the delegation was very impressed with the care and services provided by the orphanage. She handed out a summary of past club support and a list of current needs. A motion to send \$4344 to fund the items passed (Furrow/Goebel). The money will be wired to the orphanage's bank. Heather would

like to see more club members and spouses return next year to help with maintenance on the home. Vacations could be added on either end of the work trip. Heather was asked to investigate Matching Grants for the needs of the home and to see if Wal-Mart or Home Depot Foundations have been approached. There are six clubs in Merida who could be possible partners. The four who went to Mexico met with the New Generations Club officers while in Mérida, and they are amenable to working with us. Norma Maddio suggested we may want to solicit shipment of a container to ship future donations. Dave Brandon will check into making Amor Y Vida a spring break destination for Millikin students as part of Break Away service.

Eye Clinic: Heather will meet next week with the District Governor and Dr. Sinha about applying for a Matching Grant for the eye clinic he has established in the Bihar Province in India.

New Business:

Club Awards Nominations are due March 31st.

Announcements:

March is Literacy Month

A New Member Orientation for new and prospective members or those who want to brush up on Rotary basics will be March 9th at noon in the President's Room at the Decatur Club

The next board meeting will be Thursday, March 15th at noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectively,

William P. Shade IV, Secretary

Summary of Assistance and Recommendations
Rotary Club of Decatur to Amor Y Vida
Mérida, Mexico
February 15, 2007

Amor Y Vida was founded in 1989 by Katinka Kelleher. The orphanage/foster care group home is governed by a board of directors. There are eight full-time staff members and five part-time staff members. The home is run entirely on donations; no government assistance is received. The annual budget is approximately \$80,000. Currently 30 children, 10 months to age 12, live at the home. Children leave the home at age 14.

Past Assistance

1994 – TRF Matching Grant with Mérida Itzaes Rotary Club for purchase of a van
1999 – \$3,000 for purchase of a washer, dryer, refrigerator and freezer
2000 – \$1,700 Installation of flush toilets
2004 – \$1,000 Eight round tables and 20 chairs for the study room
2005 – \$500 for window screens for 30 windows and doors
2007 – \$1,250 for underwear, socks, t-shirts, back packs, art supplies, school supplies, books, maps

Current Needs (Amounts listed are in pesos)

\$7,699 – Washing Machine
\$4,830 – Re-upholster sofa and chair
\$625 – Two patio benches
\$3,980 – Waste baskets
\$3,815 – Giro play toy with platform
\$24,300 – Concrete base with synthetic grass turf
\$1,000 – Oster blender
\$1200 – DVD player
\$47,449 in pesos Exchange rate: 1USD = 10.9213 MXN \$4,344.62 in US dollars

Recommendations and Future Needs

1. Return with a work group next year to make repairs – partner with the Mérida New Generations Rotarians; ask them to go through the home and make a list of things that need to be done, purchase the materials and have required tools available at the home for us to use when we arrive.
2. Find surgeons to help child with facial abnormalities
3. Long-term consider TRF Matching Grants to remodel the kitchen and install a reverse osmosis water system
4. Assist with the purchase of the lot next door for a playground area for the children and future expansion of the home

Contact Information

Home address for:
Katinka and Tom Kelleher
Calle 31# 143
Colony Buena Vista
Mérida, YUC Mexico 97127

011-52 (999) 927 69 85
tomkelleher@hotmail.com

Amor Y Vida Orphanage
Centro Asistencial Para La Auperacion De La Mujer
en la Familia, A.C.
Calle 39, No. 339 Entre 22 Y 24 Tanlum
Mérida, YUC Mexico

011-52 (999) 925 68-56

Checks should be made out to: C.A.S.M.E.F.A.C.
All mail should be sent to Katinka Kelleher's home

