

Highlights of Actions Taken by the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation

April 2009

April 2009, Trustee minutes

The Trustees of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International met from 20-24 April 2009 in Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A. The following are highlights of actions taken.

Administration

The Trustees approved several decisions on the Future Vision Plan, including pilot district selection process, pilot district training plans, district qualification process, district leadership structure, club- and district-developed global grants, and packaged global grants. More information will be provided on the RI Website. Pilot districts will be selected in June 2009.

The Trustees amended their January 2009 decision regarding selection of Future Vision pilot districts to state “The Rotary Foundation will take into consideration if a district has a current or past district governor with outstanding financial obligations to RI and/or TRF when considering the district’s application to be selected as a pilot district..”

Fund Development

The Trustees received a report from the Rotary Centers Major Gifts Initiative Committee and were pleased to acknowledge the generosity of donors who have provided approximately US\$38.3 million toward the final goal of US\$95 million to endow this program.

In response to the additional Gates Foundation grant of US\$255 million for polio eradication, Rotary will now raise an additional US\$100 million in matching funds. The Trustees modified an earlier decision regarding contributions recognition and incentives as follows:

- A special certificate of appreciation will be awarded for a minimum of US\$2,000 in club contributions beginning 1 July 2009 and continuing through 2011-12;
- A special certificate of appreciation will be given to districts that contribute 20 percent or more of their District Designated Funds (DDF) to the challenge through 2011-12;

- The match currently provided to challenge contributions at the rate of US\$0.50 from the World Fund for every US\$1.00 of DDF contributed is extended through 2011-12. This match will be made on a first-come/first-served basis and capped at US\$3 million annually.

The Trustees agreed to a 100-point minimum for Foundation recognition point transfer requests beginning 1 July 2009.

Programs

The Trustees:

- Approved 10 Matching Grants involving Rotary clubs and districts in Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Paraguay, Scotland, South Africa, and the United States.
- Approved 15 3-H Grants involving Rotary clubs and districts in Bolivia, Cambodia, Canada, England, Guinea-Bissau, India, Kenya, Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Portugal, Taiwan, Turkey, Uganda, the United States, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- Approved a PolioPlus grant to the World Health Organization in support of research for the development of poliovirus antiviral drugs.

The Trustees approved the plans for the 2009 Rotary Alumni Celebration to be held in conjunction with the 2009 (Birmingham) Convention but, due to the economic downturn, agreed not to hold a Rotary Alumni Celebration at the 2010 (Montreal) Convention. Rotary alumni celebrations will resume in 2011, as previously approved.

Stewardship

The Trustees thanked clubs and districts for improving reporting compliance for Humanitarian Grants worldwide in 2008-09. However, eight districts were suspended for failure to meet the reporting compliance of 70% for two or more consecutive semi-annual periods and for having more than one grant overdue.

Regional training seminars for the Humanitarian Grants Cadre of Technical Advisors were approved for Montreal, Canada, and Ankara, Turkey in 2009-10.

Finance

The Trustees approved a budget for total program award expenditures of US\$153,263,000 in 2009-10. They also adopted a budget of US\$43,145,000 for program operations, fund development, general administration, and PolioPlus program operations of The Rotary Foundation during 2009-10, for a total budget of US\$196,408,000.

In view of the current economic situation, the Trustees reduced the competitive 2009-10 Matching Grants World Fund budget to 10 percent of the available funds, and encouraged clubs and districts that wish to sponsor large Matching Grant projects do so by utilizing District Designated Funds in place of the requested amount from the World Fund.

Foundation Facts

Paul Harris Fellows: 1,165,582

Foundation Benefactors: 80,207

Major Donors: 11,070

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