

## **GSP Combined Ottawa/Perth Volunteer Meeting**

Held over zoom

March 16, 2021

In attendance: Holly Blair, Liz Ballantyne-Jackson, Paul Hauraney, Rob Bowyer, Elaine Scott, Jean Sharp, Jim Nuyens, Phill Brackenbuy, Pierre Fortier, Rita Redner, Terri Henderson, Bob Klatt, Ian Gibb, Livio Persi, Joni Seligman, Janet Allan, Judy Field, Tom Clark, Erika Johner, Romaine Honey

Regrets: Tammy Morrison, Norah Hall

1. Chair: Liz Ballantyne-Jackson
2. Secretary: Erika Johner

### **1. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Review and acceptance of minutes from January 26, 2021. Motion to accept minutes made by Liz and seconded by Paul.

#### **1. Humm Newspaper update**

There was an excellent interview and article by Phill & Rita. It gave an great overview of the current situation in Guatemala. Many of our memebers have now signed up for the digital email newsletter.

#### **2. Grant Advance Foundation Searches – update**

Romaine spoke that things are going well. Ian and Romaine are working on a spreadsheet to help with the funder vetting process. Most documents have been written. Foundations will soon be approached.

#### **3. Comitancillo Emergency Fundraising for families affected by massacre of migrants in Mexico**

Ruben Feliciano reached out to us and various foundations to help with repatriation and identification of the 11 young adults that had resided in Comitancillo. One woman on that journey went to raise money for her brother with a cleft palate. We are appealing to Hope internation to hopefully raise cash to operate on that young womans brother.

US 2100.00 were raised towards burials and funerals. Our hearts go out to the grieving families of Comitancillo that have been struck with yet another tragedy.

#### **4. Stove building**

Money was sent to AMMID for 50 stoves in December, 10 school stoves are under construction or have already been built with our partner CEDEC and money for 50 stoves have been sent to AMI in February.

At the moment there are not enough funds to send more money. Terri reported that approximately \$4000.00 are in the main account at the moment, most of it is owed to the bursary account.

#### **5. Spring Fundraising – Ottawa Dinner Event**

Holly has been in touch with Sarah of Biagios, a restaurant in Ottawa. Sarah is still agreeing to have a dinner outside toward the end of May. We would need at least 30 people to hold the event. Phill suggested take out only. Many member are not comfortable to have a large get-together at this point.

We have until the end of April to give them a go ahead. We need to talk to friends to find out if people would consider a patio dinner.

So far Jean Sharp, Erika Johner and Holly Blair are part of planning committee

#### **6. November Dance in Perth**

Paul reported that the Civitan Hall is booked for November 20, 2021. Norah has booked the Band Open Roads. All will depend on the Covid situation at that time.

**7. Other** A zoom account in the amount of \$200.00 will be purchased by Rita. 1 licence issued, share the host. It can then be used for various meeting purposes such as Grant Advance, Perth-Ottawa meetings, and others.

Joni is curious about a possible other online auction coming up. We will look into it.

Paul reported on the Perth Rotary Ribfest asking for volunteers. The Rib Fest will take place on August 6, 7, and 8 at the Last Duel Park in Perth. It will be a drive by only to pick up ribs grilled by two chefs. Volunteer sign up sheets will be circulated shortly.

In the past years we have received very generous donations in the amount of \$5000.00.

Rita suggested that we should broaden our contact group for our zoom meetings. At our July 6, 2020 meeting Bill, Peggy & Bill from Texas and Ishim from Guatemala attended the meeting virtually. Some suggested Google groups, but they need to be administered.

Tom used to do it.

**Action**

Rita will look into it and Liz will also try and generate a list via news letter, asking if folks like to be on a virtual zoom meeting.

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 over zoom.