**Notes from August 5, 2016 Conference Call with “The Cabinet”**

Present: DG Randy Feldman, DGE Kathie Short, DGN Ken Thompson, Steve Howard, Anette Kirylo, PDG Karen Babin

Absent: PDG Ace Necaise, PDG Subhash Kulkarni, Joy Goundas, C.J. Jumonville, Rene Arcemont, Vicky Gutierrez

Discussion re: Kathie considering gifts to take to the International Assembly, & getting Rotary

 business cards

Randy will try to find a time on a Monday for the **monthly conference call** with “The Cabinet”

Randy is using the district’s **Long Range Plan** (LRP) as a guide this year; Ken has the

 responsibility to follow up on elements of the LRP

**Randy has completed 25 of his visits** – some results:

 **Membership** – big issue in each club

 C.J. is working up a membership plan; by the end of the year, she will develop a template

 that clubs can use for membership

 “Attraction – Retention – Succession”

 **Budget issues**

 Club changing venue has created a financial problem – increased meal fee, etc.

 Several members retiring from a club at the same time – loss of revenue

 **Fund raising** problems

 Some clubs have been financing projects out of “dues” – inadequate

 New ideas for fund raising needed

 Need to develop a list of some ideas for clubs to potentially use

 **Board of Directors Meeting** with each club – VERY useful to club & district leadership

 Steve – VERY well received & useful

 Issues raised may illuminate how our district can help

 Definition of “service project” is unclear for some clubs – fund-raisers labeled “service”!

 Programs – critical to the “health” of a club; criteria needed to capitalize on valuable

 asset for attraction & retention!

 **“Heart of the Club Award”** – very well received; unsung heroes recognized

 **GOALS** – need to be recorded in “Rotary Club Central”

 Board meeting used to help to develop goals, if not already in place

 Randy hopes for 90% of the clubs to have recorded goals eventually

 Steve - VERY important for clubs to get their goals in

 **History** – seeking to identify the “history keeper” in each club so that information can be

 forwarded to a District Historian – one is needed!

 Club presentation on **The Rotary Foundation**

 Steve – VERY well received & important

 Karen – VERY important to convey that TRF is for everyone; many Rotarians know

 nothing about TRF, & are only interested in their local community

Anette – important to find out - “What does club DO?”

Randy – perhaps, district could provide “seed money” if needed, so that club could implement

 a fund raising idea, and then pay back the “seed money”

**RYLA** – VALUABLE, inspiring program in our district; amazing individual growth & maturity

 from the start to the end of the week long program

Member of Mid-City RC has expertise in **social media** – NOLA Media Group – Kiri Walton

**Coming Up - 8/27/16** – **Foundation, Membership & Public Relations Seminar with DAC,**

 **Nominating Committee, Council of Governors following.**

How to promote it. Steve Howard said the most effective way we have to communicate to the clubs is repeated e-mails to the AGs. They e-mail to the club president. The District Facebook site is also helpful.

Because club PR Chairs have not yet been named, any PR information should be sent to the club president reminding them that they should appoint a PR chair to receive these e-mails if they don’t want to be inundated with information from the District. The same is true for other club functions.

Anette said she had been asked about stipends for auto costs to attend the Foundation/Membership/PR Seminar. Randy said that the District did not have funds for this, and, in any case, this was more likely something for which a club would take responsibility rather than the District.

Ken said the agenda would be useful if posted on the District website. He said it could also be e-mailed to all club members.

**RLI** – next session on 9/17; promotion needed; registration is through the HOA RLI website

 (Brian is the best to facilitate that)

 Attending RLI is especially good for 1st & 2nd year Rotarians – retention!

**“Rotary’s 100 Days of Service”** – clubs need to be working on their plans – 1/1 to 4/10

 A “logo” has been developed, and may be introduced at the August 27 district meeting

 New Orleans Riverbend RC is actively working on their plans

 Vicky G is tracking the donations.

 Scott Thomas, our District Fund-raising Chair, will be continuing his duties through phone

 and e-mail

 Some clubs do not understand what a “SERVICE” project is!

 Information should go from Club PR Chairs to Anette

 AG’s get names of Club PR Chairs for Anette

**Calendar Items:**

**August 27, 2016 – District Foundation, Membership & PR Meeting** at Pearl River Community

 College, Poplarville

**October 11-16, 2016 - Zone 30 & 31 Institute** in Cincinnati

**January 6, 2017 – Paul Harris Society Dinner**, Great Southern Club, Gulfport – RIPE Ian Riseley

**January 7, 2017 – Mid-Year Check Up**, Bay-Waveland Yacht Club, Bay St. Louis – RIPE Ian

 Riseley

**March 17-18, 2017 - Ole Man River PETS** – Natchez

**May 19-21, 2017 – District Conference** with D6820 in Mobile, AL – a “logo” has been

 developed to use in promotion

**June 10-14, 2017 – International Rotary Convention** in Atlanta, GA

 Perhaps have a competition between clubs about number of registrants; winning club can

 have the district pay for their president to attend

 Some clubs are exploring having groups go to Atlanta by train

Kathie is working on setting up the dates & venues for her **District Team Training, & District**

 **Training Assembly** meetings, and developing “team” for 2017-2018

 **June 3-6, 2018** - District Conference with 3 other districts at the Beau Rivage - D6820 Bill

 Walker, D6880 Bill Trant, D6860 Sue Mitchell

Karen - Today is the deadline for submission of nomination papers for **DG 2019-2020** – so far,

 only one person, has filed papers

**District By-Laws** need to be reviewed – Steve & Rene are in charge of this

 Clubs need to have By-Laws

**Inventory of district items** needed – flags, badge ribbons, table top flag display, district grant

 information, signage, Rotary phone books, district lapel pins, etc.

 Karen will send request to district leaders (including Gill & Carl) for information about items

Karen – **Zone Membership & Leadership Seminars, and Young Professional Summit** were

 successful

 Good feedback from young Rotarians; interest in an annual event; would need a chair

 RIDE Greg Yank concerned about repetitive sessions from year to year

 Registration was chaotic; VERY late registrations made planning & expense control VERY

 Difficult

Karen – **monthly attendance numbers** are slow in coming in; some are being sent to Gill

**“Re-Inventing The Wheel”** District Newsletter has been well received – lots of information;

 articles that are tied to the LRP are noted by Catherine Myers, who is doing

 a GREAT job!

Anette has not done any work on the **website** yet; Michael Frederick from the New Orleans RC

 will be handling the website

Brian is doing the **District Directory** – an urgent need!

**Visioning** – Ken & PDG John report that 15 facilitators have been identified; John will speak

 about Visioning at the 8/27 meeting

Slow progress on the goals in the LRP.

Information on past **Global Grants & International Projects** needed; Kathie has a lot of the

 records for both Brian’s and John’s years re: Grants

**Rotaract** – lots of progress

 Tulane & LSU Health Sciences are existing, & active Rotaract Clubs

 Efforts for 3 more Clubs: UNO, Southeastern, & USM

**The Rotary Foundation** – program on 8/27 will feature: RRFC Big Rich Churchman, PDG Brian

 Hall, Bob Vaughn, PDG Ace Necaise

 PDG Don Bryan will follow up with a few grants that have not been closed out

We need to identify a **“District Fund Raiser”** that can culminate at the May 19-21 District

 Conference

 Respectfully submitted,

 Karen Babin, D6840 Secretary