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KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 25, 2021**

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MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 25, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Kiwanis International convened via Zoom, Thursday, February 25, 2021. Those present were: Arthur N. Riley, President; Daniel Vigneron, Immediate Past President; Peter J. Mancuso, President-elect; Bert West, Vice President; Stan D. Soderstrom, Executive Director; Trustees Wilfredo G. Aguilar, Katrina J. Baranko, Gunnsteinn Björnsson, Gary Cooper, Kip Crain, George R. Delisle, Chuck Fletcher, Michel Fongue, Buheita Fujiwara, Elio Garozzo, David W. Hurrelbrink, Michael Mulhaul, Ronald E. Smith, and Cathy Szymanski. Guest: Patrick Cooney, Chair, Governance Committee. Absent: Trustee Sam Sekhon.

The meeting was called to order by President Arthur N. Riley on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. (EST) via Zoom Meeting. An invocation was given by Trustee George R. Delisle.

2021 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OPTIONS

In light of the ongoing emergency conditions due to the pandemic, the Kiwanis International Board considered whether to hold the 2021 Kiwanis International convention planned for Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, or how to otherwise handle the traditional annual business of the organization.

Upon motion duly made by Vice President Bert West and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

That, in accordance with the provisions of the Kiwanis International Bylaws and Policies, the Kiwanis International Board declares that a condition of emergency continues to exist due to the COVID-19 global pandemic until September 30, 2021. Because of this, the Board authorizes all Kiwanis affiliates and subsidiaries, including clubs and districts, to continue to take such extraordinary actions as they deem necessary directly related to protecting clubs, members, and those Kiwanis serves from the health, safety and financial implications of this crisis.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Cathy Szymanski and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

Further, the Kiwanis International Board, having determined that it will be impossible and impractical to hold a convention that is safe and accessible for its international membership due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and having extended emergency conditions until September 30, 2021, hereby directs staff to coordinate with the contracted hotels and convention center regarding a council meeting and future events in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA in lieu of a convention.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee George R. Delisle and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

Further, that, in accordance with Kiwanis International Bylaws Article XIX, Section 13, the Kiwanis International Board hereby calls a meeting of the Kiwanis International Council in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA during contracted dates in a manner to be determined by the Board for the purpose of electing the Kiwanis International President, President-elect, Vice President, and Trustees for the normal term for each office, beginning October 1, 2021.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Katrina Baranko and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

That the Kiwanis International Board determines to hold an education conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA prior to and in conjunction with the meeting of the Kiwanis International Council. Such education may be conducted by a combination of in-person and remote attendance, pending additional information from staff on costs and practicality.

2022 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION LOCATION

In light of the ongoing emergency conditions due to the pandemic and global health forecasts for vaccinations and herd immunity, the Kiwanis International Board considered whether to hold the 2022 Kiwanis International convention in Manila, Philippines, or whether to make alternate plans to ensure the health and safety of Kiwanis club members.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Gunnsteinn Björnsson and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

That the Kiwanis International Board agrees not to hold the 2022 Kiwanis International convention in Manila, Philippines, due to global health forecasts related to the pandemic and asks staff to take steps to relocate the 2022 convention to another city and to determine another year to hold a convention in Manila as soon as possible.

REMOTE VOTING FOR KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

The Kiwanis International Board considered whether to propose an amendment to the Kiwanis International Bylaws on the topic of remote voting. As part of this, the Board reviewed the report from the ad hoc Voting Work Group, as well as an overview summary provided by staff. The Board also then considered whether to support the proposed amendment on the same topic proposed jointly by two districts.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee David W. Hurrelbrink and seconded, the following recommendations were adopted:

That the Kiwanis International Board receives the report of the ad hoc Voting Work Group about process details related to remote voting. The Board thanks the group for its work.

Upon motion duly made by Vice President Bert West and seconded, the following recommendations were adopted:

That the Kiwanis International Board proposes an amendment to the Kiwanis International Bylaws on the topic of remote voting by the House of Delegates on Kiwanis International business, as shown in Tab 01.

Further, that the effective date for said amendment shall be October 1, 2023, to be initially implemented for the 2024 Kiwanis International convention.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee George R. Delisle and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

That the Kiwanis International Board does not support the proposed amendment from the Capital and Netherlands Districts on the topic of remote voting by the House of Delegates on Kiwanis International business.

2021 DISTRICT CONVENTIONS DURING THE ONGOING PANDEMIC

The Kiwanis International Board noted that Kiwanis International has been receiving inquiries from districts on whether and how to hold their district conventions for the current administrative year while the pandemic continues. Staff provided background information on how the matter was handled last year.

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Gary Cooper and seconded, the following recommendation was adopted:

That, in consideration of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, districts should consider whether they find it advisable to hold their 2021 annual convention as scheduled, with the health, safety, and well-being of Kiwanis club members and their family, friends, and communities being of paramount importance. If the district cancels its 2021 convention, districts are directed to follow the provisions of the Standard Form for District Bylaws: 1) to reschedule the convention prior to September 30, if possible; or 2) to hold a meeting of delegates-at-large by September 30, if possible. If neither of those methods is prudent or possible due to pandemic-related conditions, districts are authorized to use other alternate methods of conducting necessary business including declaring sole candidates to be elected, written mailed ballots, or online meeting or voting methods, as each district believes best suits its needs.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – APRIL 21-24, 2021

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be April 21-24, 2021, in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

The meeting adjourned sine die on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at 11:54 a.m. EST.