

**RIO LINDA ELVERTA FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE**  
**810 Oak Lane, Rio Linda, California 95673**

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, March 20, 2023**

**Call to Order**

President Charlea Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Vice President Becky McDaniel as well as Officer's Robert Bastian, Wayne Del Nero and Lisa Morris were present. Staff Members present included Executive Director Mike Heller. President Charlea Moore called in via Zoom Communications. This meeting was also conducted both in person and on Zoom Communication.

**Public Comment**

There were no Public Comments for this meeting.

**General Business**

1. Approve Minutes from December 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

- There were no questions or comments on the Minutes.

**Motion by Vice President McDaniel and Officer Morris seconded the motion to approve the Minutes from December 12<sup>th</sup>. Motion passed 5-0.**

2. Review Financials of 2022 End of Year and 2023 Year to Date

- The item was introduced by Executive Director Heller who explained that there were 18 total pages. An overview page for 2022 end of year as well as eight pages with each line item broken down (in larger print). There is a second overview page with eight additional pages for each arm of the Foundation for 2023 year to date. The Foundation current to date balance is \$67,749.65.
- Vice President McDaniel is happy with the Foundation numbers, there has been a great job on the fundraising.
- Officer Morris concurs with the fundraising. She congratulated both the Aqua Knights and the Firehouse on their fundraising.
- Officer Del Nero noted that it was a great job on the fundraising. He asked how many branches the Foundation had. There are currently eight arms for the Foundation.
- Officer Bastian concurred that it was a good year.
- President Moore agreed with all of the Officer's comments. She is very happy with the \$10,000.00 donation from the Winn Foundation.

3. Discussion – Aqua Knights updates and Fundraisers

- Executive Director Heller introduced this item and provided an overview of the upcoming Aqua Knights season including their registration fundraiser (candy bar sales) and the mid-season lap-a-thon.
- Attached to the report was a breakdown of where the 150 swimmers from the 2022 team resided by zip code. Approximately 35% of the swimmers reside in Rio Linda or Elverta.

- Vice President McDaniel made a motion to keep sponsorship/scholarship dollars in the Rio Linda and Elverta Zip Codes. This was seconded by Officer Del Nero for discussion purposes.
- Swim Team Parents Committee member Jordin Scobee was introduced and provided an argument for the sponsorship dollars to be open to all swimmers regardless of where they reside. She stated that the majority of the swimmers live outside of the Rio Linda and Elverta zip codes and are treated as members of the community and welcomed to the team. They also participate in fundraising to make the team successful. Ms. Scobee also read a prepared statement from Audrey Grissom, the President of the Parents Committee which also supported opening up the scholarship dollars to all swimmers.
- Officer Morris stated that this was a compelling letter. She feels that if they are a team member and are contributing to the team, they should be considered for scholarships.
- Officer Del Nero commented that in the past when our swim team was struggling that North Natomas and North Highlands did not assist us. He feels that the tables will turn again and that scholarships usually come from within the community.
- Vice President McDaniel mentioned that the surrounding communities also have Foundations and out of area swimmers can request financial assistance from those Foundations. She feels that the dollars should stay in the community, and we could be opening a can of worms – if we give a discount to participants from outside the community – then we will need to do it for everybody.
- Officer Bastian stated that the information was very informative, he feels that we could open ourselves up if we open to outside communities.
- President Moore does not agree that if the swim team offers scholarships that it will impact other Park District or Foundation programs. We do have a strong team due to other teams folding. Can we look into a proportional type of scholarship (percentage of a full award) within our By-Laws. (One Third reserved for Rio Linda and Elverta and the rest sent out for need based, as an example).
- Vice President McDaniel asked if all registration fees come into the Park District. Yes, all registration fees are collected by the Park District and the fundraising comes to the Foundation. Maybe the Park District could consider a Rio Linda and Elverta resident discount.
- Officer Del Nero asked what is required for a sponsorship. Executive Director Heller responded that the criteria for scholarships would be discussed with the Administration and Finance Committee as they were sorely out of date. Officer Del Nero asked if there was a set policy for scholarships – there is not.
- President Moore stated that we were heading off of the topic of the motion and we should put the criteria for sponsorships/scholarships on a future agenda for discussion.

- Ms. Scobee stated that there was currently no scholarship program currently. The Parents Committee discussed a potential scholarship program but were in limbo as there was no criteria.
- Vice President McDaniel asked if the sponsorships would come out of the general fund of the Foundation or would it come out of the Aqua Knights fundraising? Executive Director Heller responded that there is a specific sponsorship line for the Aqua Knights only and that the Aqua Knights could replenish this line item from their fundraising efforts.
- President Moore proposed to table the criteria conversation to the next Foundation meeting and have the Executive Director work with the Aqua Knights to develop the criteria.

**Motion by Vice President McDaniel and seconded by Officer Del Nero to keep the scholarship funds within the Rio Linda and Elverta zip codes. The motion failed due to lack of a majority: Ayes; (1) McDaniel; Noes; (1) Moore, Abstain; (3), Bastian, Del Nero, Morris; Absent; (0)**

4. Discussion – Disbursement of \$10,000.00 donation from the Winn Foundation
  - This item was introduced by Executive Director Heller who put the question to the Board on how they would like to see the donation disbursed.
  - Vice President McDaniel would like to see the dollars disbursed but not sure about percentages. Some to the Engine #2 project but definitely a disbursement across the board.
  - Officer Del Nero stated that some arms earn dollars on their own while some do not. He would like to explore this a little more. He feels that the Engine Project and our own programs that aren't raising any dollars would be most in need. He would like to hold further discussion on this.
  - Officer Morris would like to see it disbursed to the dog park project (amenities like park benches); the Senior program; Engine #2; the Swim Team; and the General Fund.
  - Officer Bastian would like to see it disbursed, not sure entirely where but throughout the entire full Foundation.
  - President Moore agrees with Officer's Morris, Bastian, and Del Nero that the dollars should be disbursed and spread out. She would like to see some dollars go towards the Senior programs, as well as the Youth and Swim programs. Trees for the dog park would also be a good idea.
  - President Moore recommended that the Executive Director work on a proposed disbursement and bring the item back for discussion at the June meeting.
5. Discussion – Fire Engine/Firehouse Update
  - The item was introduced by Executive Director Heller regarding the fire truck and firehouse project. The Board was informed that work continues on Engine #2, although there is a need for additional volunteers. Currently the Engine project has \$7,977.05 in their account.
  - Officer Bastian thanked Mr. Mitchell for bringing him up to speed on the Firehouse/Engine projects.

- Mr. Mitchell thanked Officer Bastian for his comments. He mentioned that the Firehouse is always open for the Board to visit. He also commented on Congressman Bera's visit. He was impressed with the visit. He also thanked Officer Del Nero for his continued work on the project.

6. Discussion – Update on Foundation Programs

- Executive Director Heller introduced this item informed the Board that the Foundation had a great year in 2022 capped off with the \$10,000.00 donation from the Winn Foundation.
- The Rio Linda Aqua Knights have begun their early registration and look to be on target to equal or exceed their 2022 numbers.
- The Park District is working on an increase of Community Special events. The next event will be the Eggstravaganza on April 1.
- There is also a concentration on Senior programs working on field trips and extending the Café.
- President Moore stated that she is delighted with the proposed trips upcoming for the Seniors as well as the reopening of the Café to four days per week.

7. Discussion – 2022 Filing with the IRS and the FTB

- Executive Director Heller informed the RLEFFF Board of Directors that the annual tax filing with the IRS and FTB had been completed and the Foundation had renewed the charity with the Office of the Attorney General and paid the \$25.00 fee.

**Items not on the Agenda**

- Mr. Mitchell of the Firehouse/Engine Project thanked the Board of Directors for considering the Engine project for some of the Winn Foundation dollars. He invited the Board to come by the Firehouse to see the project.

**Future Agenda Items**

- Discussion of the scholarship/sponsorship program for the Rio Linda Aqua Knights
- Discussion of the Disbursement of the Winn Foundation donation

**Adjournment**

President Moore adjourned the meeting at 7:08pm. The next meeting of the RLE Foundation for the Future Board will take place on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00pm.