

Minutes

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**13:30, Saturday, September 14th, 2013
Room “B”, School Conference Facility, Waterton, Alberta**

1. The AGM of the WGIPPA was called to order at 13:20.
2. Those attending the Annual General Meeting are listed in **Appendix “A”** attached.
3. A moment of silence was observed for deceased members of WGIPPA. It was noted that Barry Nolan, a long time attendee and Director of the WGIPPA had passed since our last Assembly.
4. President Carl Prinzing introduced the WGIPPA Executive, Directors and Guests.

Motion: That the Minutes of the 2012 AGM of the WGIPPA not be read to the Assembly. (Moved by Fran Leggett/seconded by Greg Duncan– Carried)

Motion: That the Minutes of the September 12th, 2012 AGM of the WGIPPA held in Kalispell, Montana be approved. (Moved by Greg Duncan/seconded by Earl Huson – Carried)

5. Financial Reports:
 - a. Glenn Coulter presented the Financial Report for the WGIPPA bank account located in Canada at the Servus Credit Union Ltd. in Lethbridge, Alberta. This Report is attached as **Appendix “B”**.

Motion: That the Financial Report for the Canadian Account of the WGIPPA be accepted. (Moved by Glenn Coulter/seconded by Dick Bide – Carried)

- b. Millie Baycroft presented the Financial Report for the WGIPPA bank account located in the USA. This Report is attached as **Appendix “C”**. It was noted that we need to discuss when District 5080 is to be invoiced for membership.

Motion: That the Financial Report for the USA Account of the WGIPPA be accepted. (Moved by Millie Baycroft/seconded by Roy Beekman – Carried)

- c. Ed Rothfuss of the Rotary Club of Kalispell (5390), Host Club of the 2012 WGIPPA Assembly in Kalispell, presented the Financial Report for the 2012 Assembly. This Report is attached as **Appendix “D”**.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

- a. **Host Club Report** – Host Club’s Report for “Waterton”, 2013 – Trevor Axworthy, Rotary Club of Calgary (5360) – Chairman Trevor indicated that there were 125 delegates and 16 YEX students registered for the 2013 Assembly. One hundred and forty-two were served at the Friday evening barbeque and the Saturday evening banquet is sold out at about 160 attendees. Finances for the Assembly appeared to be close to break even. The Sunday morning “Hands Across the Border Ceremony” will be conducted adjacent to the “International Peace Park Pavilion” on the “spit” of land – a 10:30 start was announced. Trevor Axworthy had two recommendations with respect to the Assembly: 1) that future Host Clubs use the registration system that they had put in place as it had been a source of frustration this year; and 2) that the WGIPPA consider reserving the Waterton facilities now for 2015 as Trevor felt that there was a strong demand for the facilities.

Motion: That the report of the 2013 Host Club be accepted. (Moved by Greg Duncan/seconded by Dale Gillespie – Carried)

- b. **2014 Host Club Report (Glacier/Kalispell)** – Rotary Club of Polson (5390) was suggested as the probable host Club for 2014. President Carl Prinzing indicated that details would follow early in the new WGIPPA year.
- c. **Future Hosts of WGIPPA Assemblies** – To date, Host Clubs for 2015 onward have not been identified. District Governor Pat Killoran (5360) was asked to encourage participation by District 5370 in hosting future Assemblies. It was also expressed that involvement by District 5080 would be highly desirable.
- d. **Status of WGIPPA as Fellowship in Rotary** – The Bylaws has been completed and the Officers appointed at the spring Board of Directors meeting for the proposed Peace Park Fellowship. The Officers are from the different districts. This information was submitted to the Rotary International Fellowship Committee to hopefully establish the Peace Park Fellowship. The Committee asked that the Bylaws include that the Fellowship would not try and influence governments around the world in any way. Acceptance of the Peace Park fellowship proposal will provide formal recognition by Rotary and allow us to have a booth in the House of Friendship at RI Conventions to facilitate promoting the Peace Park concept. We want to promote the use of “hands-across-the-border” ceremonies at other peace parks located around the world. There are now

138 to 150 peace parks on the books internationally in various stages of development. President Carl indicated that he expected Rotarians to carry the peace park torch to other nations. The fees for joining the Fellowship are proposed to be \$25.00/year. The Bylaws are simple and straight forward (2.5 pages).

The submission package has now passed the RI Fellowship Committee and goes before the Board of Directors in November and we expect it to sail through. President Carl thanked all those that have contributed to the creation of the Peace Park Fellowship.

7. New Business

- a. **Correspondence.** No correspondence of note was received during the past year.
- b. **Election of Directors of WGIPPA:** District Governor John Stewart (5390) nominated Dan Bingham of Helena and Carl Ernst of Miles City to serve three year terms on the Board. They will join Greg Duncan, Marshall Gingery, Dale Gillespie and Susan Hay Patrick as representatives of District 5390.

District Governor Pat Killoran (5360) nominated Sheran Carter (Lethbridge East), Dick Bide (Medicine Hat) and Carolyn Clark (Lethbridge Sunrise) to represent District 5360 on the WGIPPA Board of Directors for 3, 2, and 1 year(s), respectively.

On behalf of District 5370, Glenn Coulter nominated John Vrolijk, plus two other Directors to be identified later, to represent the District.

Casey Brennan and Brian McNair were nominated to represent District 5380 on the Canadian side of the border. One additional Director from Canada and three from the US side of District 5080 are still required.

Motion: That the slate of Directors nominated as above be elected to the Board of the WGIPPA. (Moved by Roy Beekman/seconded by Millie Baycroft – Carried)

c. Nomination of Vice Presidents/Presidents:

Motion: That Terry Allen of the Calgary South Club in District 5360 be appointed Vice President of the WGIPPA for one year (2013/14) and subsequently serve as President of the WGIPPA from 2014 through to 2016. (Moved by Earl Huson/seconded by Dale Gillespie – Carried)

Motion: That Marshall Gingery of the Helena (Noon) Club in District 5390 be appointed Vice President for 2014 to 2016 during the Presidential term of Terry Allen and then would assume the role of President from 2016 to 2018. (Moved by John Stewart/seconded by Sheran carter – Carried)

- d. **Investment of WGIPPA Resources:** Fran Leggett solicited ideas from the meeting and forward into subsequent weeks and months as to ideas on how the WGIPPA could best invest some of its resources into the Waterton and Glacier Parks.
- e. Ed Rothfuss of the Rotary Club of Kalispell proposed that future Host Clubs organizing the WGIPPA Assembly consider incorporating a “Volunteer Day” into their program. It was proposed that the Volunteer Day would be held immediately prior to the traditional Assembly. The purpose of the Volunteer Day would be to help the respective parks get some of their work done under tight and declining budgets, build greater rapport between members of the WGIPPA and park staff, and build greater rapport among WGIPPA Rotary members.
- f. President Carl Prinzing advised the meeting that the establishment of an Advocacy Policy had been recommended at the 2013 Spring BOD meeting. This has not happened. A Committee has now been struck by the BOD (Mick Holm of 5390 and John Vrolijk of 5370) to provide a draft Advocacy Policy Statement to the 2014 Spring BOD for its consideration. This policy will guide future Boards as to their actions in dealing with policy issues and allocation of resources.
- g. President Carl Prinzing announced that the likely dates for the 2014 Assembly would be September 19th to 21st, in either Kalispell or the Glacier Park. He also noted that the BOD had authorized Secretary/Treasurer Glenn Coulter to reserve the Waterton facilities for 2015 once the dates for the Rotary Zone meetings were determined.
- h. Dale Gillespie provided the AGM with a short summary of the plans proposed to upgrade the WGIPPA web site.
- i. **Assembly Evaluation:** It was suggested that an electronic assessment form be sent out to those attending the Assembly to acquire feedback. Host Club Chair Trevor Axworthy agreed to do so.
- j. It was identified that the Spring BOD would be addressing the possibility of changing the WGIPPA’s fiscal year to facilitate more up to date reporting of the Association’s financial status.
- k. Marshall Gingery moved a motion of appreciation to the Host Rotary Club of Calgary for a job well done. – Applause!

8. **Closing comments from President, WGIPPA.** President Carl Prinzing mentioned that for those wondering if we are really progressing within the WGIPPA, there were a few things he believes in and that are changing fairly quickly. At the Strategic Planning sessions that are usually held at the Spring BOD, that plans are laid out one year in advance. At the planning session in Cranbrook last year, he noted that some of the WGIPPA's weaknesses are now becoming our strengths. "One of the weaknesses that we discussed in Great Falls was that the WGIPPA was not recognized outside of the Parks, and certainly not by RI. That is changing. We are going to have representatives going to the Crown of the Continent meetings, we are going to have Directors going to other meetings, and the Peace Park Fellowship is going to be a tremendous jump for RI to recognize us. That is going to become one of our strengths, which we considered a weakness only a few months ago.

The proposed Advocacy Policy that we will be working on at the Spring BOD will move from a "weakness" to "strength" of this organization. We will be supporting positions that we feel strongly about.

Cost of the WGIPPA is always a concern. We have to somehow keep the cost down so that it is affordable to young Rotarians and their families. Our goal for next year is that registration will not be over \$100.00 per person. We are going to push for this as hard as we can through sponsorships, etc. to keep the cost down.

We are jumping ahead by leaps and bounds and I thank each and every one of our Directors for all they are doing. Directors – carry it with pride, go after everybody and anybody that you can think of because I guess this organization is the key and if you go to those meetings and you hear that forest rangers, the executives talk about how Rotary made what we have in this Park system, you have to be proud. So, take this, run with it, just be extremely proud that you are part of this great, great organization and what we have done and what we are going to do down the road.

I am going to throw out another caveat that I have been concerned about the last couple of years. I would love to see honorary Association Directors be from our First Nations. Some food for thought! I think this is very important. We are on their land, they were the first to occupy this whole area, and I think it is very important. And this year, including those in some of the talks and things like that, I think they were absolutely wonderful. Think about the possibility of having honorary Directors. It is time to reach out and I think we need to bring these people in.

I would also ask for lots of support to try to bring 5080 on board. It's going to take each one of us, and Governors please reach out to the Governor over there to see if we can't give them more information or whatever it takes to make this

decision that is holding them back to not come to these meetings. I don't know what the issues are, but we need to find them and get behind them and try to convince them that this is so important. One of the biggest reasons we wanted to see 5080 come on board was because we wanted to see part of the wonderful conservation area in BC be part of the Park. We consider what they are doing over there, what they are working for in the North Flathead to be extremely important, so it is rather disappointing that we don't have more participation from there. Maybe if we all give them some support, maybe that is the key. I do really hope so, because this is a good organization.”

9. **Adjournment.** 16:10