

**Rotary Club Of Decatur #180  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2004**

**Members Present:** Dave Brandon, Jim Finn, Paula Finn, Steve Furrow, Martin Getty, Miley Palmer, Pen Shade, Paul Stanzione, Stu Ellis, Robin Crowe, Andy Thomas, Bill Kienzle, Bob Lloyd

**President-elect Dave Brandon called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm.**

**Approval of Minutes:** The November minutes were approved. (Palmer/Furrow)

**Financial Report:** Harold Murphy presented the report. Income for November was \$7482.59 and expenses were \$2413.27. The November Penny Fund of \$250.72 was given to the Community Foundation of Decatur-Macon County for the Rotary #180 Endowment Fund. The \$60 speakers' honorarium went to Brush College School. Acknowledgement letters from both organizations were announced by Furrow and placed on file. Cash on hand is \$49,734.38 with an additional \$10,456.05 in Money Market, and Member's Current accounts of \$9,712.40.

Palmer wondered if we should be carrying the Rotary Park outstanding pledge of \$30,000 as a liability. Discussion followed. Murphy thought carrying it on the books as a "special note" was a good idea, so future board would be aware that one more \$15,000 payment, after 12/04, remains due. Furrow reported that two members who were in significant arrears had brought their accounts up to zero balance. Ellis reported he had contacted Decatur Park District personnel about having a representative at a Monday meeting to accept the 2004 gift check, but that as yet he had not heard back from Park District.

The Treasure's Report was accepted. (Palmer/Murphy)

**Membership:** Palmer inquired if the new Major at the Salvation Army had been approached. Ellis said he would take care of it. Ellis reported no resignations, and said he had been requested to delay discussion about Jo Caulkins as a potential new member until January 2005 board meeting. Ellis forwarded new Small Business Development manager, new Macon County Farm Bureau executive director, and the Farm Progress Show manager as potential new members. Shade suggested Dennis Roby – an ADM consultant who is nearing retirement. Kienzle suggested any State of Illinois employees who had taken the "early retirement" option, and the Finns suggested the Fair Havens Nursing Home administrator. All will be approached by those who forwarded their names.

### **Committee Reports**

**Grants:** Kienzle noted that the grant application at [www.decaturrerotary.org](http://www.decaturrerotary.org) is in need of proofreading, and shared that the Herald and Review still had not published the Rotary #180 grant information and deadline. The Decatur Tribune has published it, according to Bill. Kienzle asked that the grant decision deadline be delayed to January since the grant committee had been unable to meet as of this time. He requested that the board vote on a Penny Fund recipient for January 2005 and suggested the Homeward Bound Homeless Shelter. The motion passed (Furrow/Palmer).

Palmer and Kienzle followed up on the request for assistance from Durfee Magnet School in treating the entire school population to a viewing of "The Polar Express." A motion was made to support the project up to \$400 (\$8 per child for 50 children) and it passed (Kienzle/Crowe). Furrow issued the check to Palmer who delivered it to Durfee principal. Kienzle noted that this \$400 grant will be included in the overall grant budget of \$11,000.

### **Old Business**

Rotary #180 Blood Drive is set for January 19, 2005 at the Red Cross HQ. Information was furnished and a call went out for a volunteer chairperson. Ellis will appeal to the club members and make timely announcements at the next four Monday meetings. Shade had noted the club had quite a bit of money in cash (checking account) and wondered if the club ought to consider a revolving certificate of deposit. Shade/Murphy will explore investment options with an eye toward making a decision before end of December.

## **New Business**

Ellis reported that Monday 12/27/04 will be the annual meeting of the club, with election of officers, a financial report and any other business that should come before the membership. Ellis has asked Wegi Stewart to chair a nominating committee for one new officer and six new board members.

Ellis suggested the club authorize funds to purchase an advertisement in the Business Journal for the Annual Report of Decatur Rotary #180. The club's financial support, volunteer support, longevity and Rotary International could be featured. Board members thought it was a great idea.

Palmer will ask for a mayoral declaration from Mayor Paul Osborne, recognizing the Rotary International Centennial and Decatur Rotary #180's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Ellis asked the Board if Rotary #180 wanted to be "near the top of the list" of non-profit organizations the Farm Progress Show will pay for volunteer staffing from those organizations during the three-day event in 2005. The consensus was that perhaps other agencies would be better candidates, and that Rotary #180 could be on a second tier of organizations as a backup measure.

Ellis reported that #180 is being asked to supply players for the Rotary International Bridge Tournament at the Chicago conference in 2005. Brandon opined that if the game were poker or euchre, he would be happy to oblige, but is not a bridge player. No others indicated either an interest or even bridge-playing capacity.

**Announcements/Other** Stanzone indicated in interest in placing an advertisement in the Sparkplug for Greater Decatur Y events. Discussion was favorable.

**The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 1:18pm**

**The next meeting will be Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Decatur Club.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Brandon, President-elect