



# Kiwaniis®

LOUISIANA-MISSISSIPPI-WEST TENNESSEE DISTRICT

## MINUTES

Meeting of the 2021-2022 District Board of Trustees

Zoom Call – March 26, 2022

Rick Latiolais, Governor, Presiding

### ATTENDANCE

Governor Rick Latiolais

Governor-Elect Bruce Hammatt

Immediate Past Governor Patrice Cusimano

Executive Director Charles Ford

District Trustees:

John Fry, Region I

Jim Lytle, Region II

Rogena Woods-Mitchell, Region III

Marcel Lashover, Region IV

Kim Champagne, Region VI

Absent:

District Trustees:

Michele Crosby, Region V

Malissa Sweeney, Region VII

### **I & II. Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and Defining Statement**

---

Governor Rick opened the meeting with a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Defining Statement.

### **III. Opening Remarks**

---

#### **A. Rick Latiolais, Governor**

##### **1. Comments to the Board**

Rick informed the Board that three new clubs have been organized in the District this year:

Tri-Parishes Kiwanis Club in LaPlace, La., with 41-42 members so far

Carencro, La., Kiwanis Club with 34 members

Rayne, La., Kiwanis Club with 20 members

Rick asked for approval of a bylaw amendment to present to the membership at the Baton Rouge Convention. The proposed amendment would conform to the previously passed International Bylaws concerning pro-rata dues. Trustee John Fry moved to present the bylaw amendment to the delegates at the Baton Rouge Convention in August to conform with the pro-rata dues billing process now being used by Kiwanis International; the motion was seconded by Past Governor Patrice Cusimano. The motion passed. Charlie will prepare the proposed bylaw amendment as worded by

Kiwanis International to be presented to the House of Delegates at the Baton Rouge Convention.

Governor Rick tossed out a question to the Board, wondering if clubs could be sued for non-payment of dues. The comments from the Board Members were mainly negative, including that the cost of litigation would be prohibitive, and that the International Board would probably not support that concept.

Rick commented that both the Key Club District and the Circle K District held their District Conventions the previous weekend. Both conventions were held virtually and functioned well. Key Club elected a Governor for 2022-2023, Emerson Morris of the St. Patrick High Key Club in Biloxi. The Key Club District also elected a few Lt. Governors for the year. Circle K had no one step forward for any offices yet. Rick felt that CKI Administrator Sid Guedry had someone in mind for Governor, and he will let the Kiwanis District know soon if they have any officers for 2022-2023.

**B. Bruce Hammatt, Governor-Elect**

Bruce informed the Board that he was in Carolina with Trustee Gary Cooper.

Bruce informed the Board that he will appoint Judi Zimmermann of the Algiers Kiwanis Club as the new Key Club Administrator. The interim Administrator, Jennifer Kelly-White, will continue to assist Judi as she can.

Bruce informed the Board that Kiwanis will proposing a bylaw amendment in Indianapolis this summer that would allow District to select Kiwanians from divisions elsewhere in the District to serve as Lieutenant Governors from Divisions that cannot find someone interested in serving.

Bruce continued by letting the Board know that he was still missing Lt. Governors for the 2022-2023 year from Divisions 1A, 2, 9, 10A, and 10B. He hoped to fill those positions by the time of the District Convention in Baton Rouge.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

---

The Board held a discussion on charter clubs, charter members, bank fees, bank account openings, trying to relieve some of the confusion involved. Patrice asked if Rogena could share the timeline of new club building to help explain the overall process.

Trustee John Fry moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Trustee Kim Champagne. Motion passed.

**V. Board Committee Reports:**

---

**A. INSPIRATION - MEMBERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT**

---

**Committee: R. Woods-Mitchell (C); K. Champagne; J. Fry; J. Lytle; B. Hammatt**

Rogena said that her committee has been working on a Kiwanis Boot Camp program to introduce to the District, hopefully in time for the Lieutenant Governor Training Conference, and for the District Convention.

## **B. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

---

**Committee: B. Hammatt (C); J. Lytle; M. Lashover; M. Sweeney; R. Woods-Mitchell**

Bruce gave an update on the existing District Project – AEDs in every school – reporting that little activity exists in the District anymore. He offered a couple ideas of possible ideas for a new service project. The Community Impact Committee will meet on the status of the District Project, whether to stay with the AEDs, or consider something new.

## **C. COMMUNITY IMPACT**

---

**Committee: B. Hammatt (C); J. Lytle; M. Lashover; M. Sweeney; R. Woods-Mitchell**

Bruce reported that the committee has not yet met, so he has little new to report. Nothing has been discussed about a new District Service Project, nor has the local Kiwanis House Board meet, so there is little to no new information to report to the District Board.

## **D. BRANDING & IMAGE COMMITTEE**

---

**Committee: M. Crosby (C); M. Lashover; J. Lytle; M. Sweeney; R. Woods-Mitchell**

Governor Rick asked the Branding and Image Committee if they have discussed anything. Since Michele was not in attendance, Governor-Elect Bruce told the Board that KI, with Covid, seems to have backed off this topic some.

Bruce did mention that even with the recent emphasis on the approved Kiwanis logo, that the District continues to circulate the old vintage banners to the District Offices, and that most clubs have the old-style banners loaded down with banner patch awards. All of these will have to be addressed in the near future if Kiwanis International continues to stress using the new logos.

Rogena asked if the District Board should provide a list of approved vendors within the District to make it easier for clubs to adhere to this policy. Rick said that if we can get the list of the approved vendors, we should publish it on the District Web Site.

Rick announced that Judi Zimmermann is planning for the 2022-2023 Key Club Board Training and meeting in Ridgeland, Miss. the weekend of April 8-10, 2022.

## **E. FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

---

**Committee: J. Fry (C); K. Champagne; M. Crosby; M. Lashover; M. Sweeney**

Finance Chair John Fry said that everyone on the Board received a copy of the District Financial Report. He said that if we collected all the dues still outstanding, the District would be a lot closer to our budgeted income. At this time, 81% of the dues received, only 45% of expenses, which should just as we prepare for District Convention.

Marcel asked if we should contact the delinquent dues. Governor Rick said he called many of the clubs and got a positive response from some of them that their dues will be paid soon.

## **F. LEADERSHIP & EDUCATION**

**Committee: K. Champagne (C); M. Crosby; J Fry; M. Sweeney; R. Woods-Mitchell**

Kim reported that the Mid-Year Regionals seemed to be well-received. She felt that the dates for the Mid-Year Regionals should be determined earlier. Charlie suggested that the dates be determined at the May meeting when the incoming Trustees are invited and most attend.

Kim suggested that the District may want to plan more education using social media, as a few other Districts have moved towards. Jim suggested that Dorothy Kemp's "What's Brewing" sessions may be developed further to provide this extra training. Bruce suggested that different District leaders may want to be invited to participate. But something needs to be tweaked to attract more members and to make it work. Bruce added that the programming may need to be tweaked, but concept is important to further develop.

John Fry said the Membership & Engagement Committee may be assigned the task of helping to develop the program further. Whatever the committee decides, the Board will own it. Let the committee help develop it.

Kim suggested that Social Media needs to be used more to publicize the program. Jim suggested weekly feeds to Facebook to spread the news.

## **G. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

Governor Rick Latiolais said that he felt that the District Policies seems to be updated and no extra work needed just yet.

Rick mentioned Amplify but has not heard anything about the second year. Rogena said that her Lt. Governor is taking it and is excited about the program.

Charlie quickly discussed the upcoming events on the calendar, trying to bring the board more up to date. He reminded the Board that International Convention is taking registrations now – there will not be any on-site registration.

The Board quickly looked at Bruce's Distinguished Criteria for 2022-2023. He asked the Board to review the criteria and get back with him soon. Bruce informed the Board that KI will be coming out with new criteria for the Signature Project. Bruce did say that he would have a workshop session on Kiwanis International's Signature Project.

Rogena reminded the Board that a year ago, the Board agreed to review the Board Committees and restructure them. As we near the new Board Year, it would be wise to have the committee structure in place. Bruce added that it should be in hand and updated in time for the new board members coming on board at the May Board Meeting.

The Board ended the meeting with a conversation on a Board Training Conference of some sort and visiting or communicating more with the Lieutenant Governors of their Region.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

## **VI. District Calendar**

---

- Kiwanis Lt. Governor Training Conference & District Board Meeting, Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge, La. – May 13 & 14, 2021
- Key Leader-North, Eva, Tenn. – April 29-May 1, 2022
- Key Club New Board Training, Baton Rouge, La. – to be decided
- Kiwanis International Convention, Indianapolis, IN – June 8-11, 2022
- Circle K International Convention, Austin, Tex., June 24-27, 2022
- Key Club International Convention, Washington, D.C., July 6-10, 2022
- Kiwanis District Convention – Crown Plaza, Baton Rouge, La. – August 5-7, 2022
- 1<sup>st</sup> 2022-2023 District Board Meeting – date and location to be determined.
- Other

---

## **IX. Adjournment**

---

With no additional business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.