

Annual Meeting Minutes
Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention
Saturday - June 20, 2009 - 7:00 AM
The National Exhibition Center
Gallery Hospitality Suites (17-18)
Birmingham, UK

1. **Welcome:** The meeting was opened at 7:10 am by Dr. Ken D. Tuck, Chairman of the RAG. There were 22 members of the RAG present at the meeting who then introduced themselves. Dr. Tuck then turned the meeting over to PRIP Frank Devlyn to give a brief welcome to all present.
2. **Secretary's Annual Report:** Executive Secretary, Harriett Schloer, presented her annual report (copy included with this report.) It was moved and seconded that the report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.
3. **Minutes:** Minutes of the 2008 Annual meeting were presented for review. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was presented by Harriett Schloer in the absence of the RAG Treasurer. It was moved and seconded that the report be approved as presented. Motion carried.
5. **Development of Partnerships:** Dr. Tuck discussed the development of Partnerships on the part of the RAG. He brought the membership up to date on what the RAG's goals are regarding partnerships and how these relationships will be viewed under the Future Vision plan. He then presented the following resolution that had been adopted by the Board at their annual Board meeting on Friday evening:
 - a. "Be it resolved to become more Proactive by securing Memorandums of Understanding with ORBIS, the World Blind Union, International Association for Blindness Prevention, the International Society for Rehabilitation & Research for Low Vision and other similar organizations.

Be it resolved that once a relationship has been established, the RAG will work to carry out Blindness Prevention projects with the assistance of these organizations."

It was moved and seconded that the resolution be adopted. The motion carried.

6. **New Dues Structure:** Harriett Schloer then presented the new dues structure as approved by the Board at its annual meeting on Friday evening. It is as follows:
 - a. Developed Countries (\$100 Lifetime . . . no annual)
 - b. Developing Countries (\$50 Lifetime . . . \$10 annual)
 - c. Underdeveloped Countries (\$25 Lifetime . . . \$5 annual)This will allow Rotarians in these countries to become members of the RAG at a rate that is commensurate with their country's economic standard. Country / Regional chairs will be appointed by the Board during the coming year in order to get the network organized. After a brief discussion, it was moved and seconded that new membership / dues structure be adopted. The motion carried.
7. **Membership Recruitment Materials:** The Board has proposed that the executive Secretary develop a brochure and Membership Form which will be available in PDF format for recruiting members around the world. This shall be posted on the RAG web site for download. It will be a fillable document that can be edited to meet the needs of each geographical area. It was moved and seconded that these items be developed under the direction of the Board. The motion Carried
8. **Code of Responsibilities for RAG members:** The Board has approved the establishment of the "Code of Responsibilities for RAG Members" as a requirement of RAG membership. This is essentially an expansion of the RAG mission. These responsibilities shall consist of the following:
 1. Encourage clubs and districts to plan an activity, each year, to celebrate World Sight Day (2nd Thurs. in Oct.)

2. Encourage clubs and districts, where applicable, to establish School Vision screenings on a regular basis
3. Encourage clubs and districts to become involved in blindness prevention projects at either the local or international level.
4. Work with District leaders to organize an ABC (Avoidable Blindness Conference) annually during the District Conference or the District Training Assembly. *(List of recommended activities will be made available on the RAG web site)*
5. Work with clubs and district to establish a local and / or district program for the distribution and collection of used eyeglasses.

It was moved and seconded to approve this Code of Responsibilities. The motion carried.

9. **Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund:** RAG Board member and BP-DAF Administrator, PDG Walt Schloer then presented his annual report on the grant activity by the BP-DAF for the past year. He answered numerous questions on the process of getting a DAF grant. This will be discussed further during the Blindness Prevention workshop on Monday. Those interested in a DAF grant were invited to visit individually with PDG Schloer at the RAG booth. *(copy of the DAF report is included with this annual report).*

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

1. **Annual Voluntary Administrative Assessment** (for Lifetime members only)' Harriett Schloer once again discussed the RAG's finances. Discussion was held on the expense of exhibiting at the Convention and the AAO meeting on an annual basis and how this is impacting the RAGs assets because we do not have an annual income stream, due to all of our members being Lifetime members with no dues. The Board has recommended an annual \$25.00 minimum "voluntary" assessment to the RAG to assist in covering these annual expenses. After a brief discussion, it was moved and seconded to approve the Board's recommendation and to leave the annual amount at the discretion of the Executive Secretary. The first such assessment will be handled by a worldwide "snail" mailout to get all members to update their contact information. Motion Carried.
 2. **Presentation:** Board member, PDG Rekha Shetty then presented Harriett Schloer then with an Indian token (hanging token) in friendship and congratulations for being named a Service Above Self Award recipient.
11. **2010 Annual Meeting:** As soon as the Executive Secretary receives information from RI on dates and times available for the 2010 Annual meeting, the date and time will be set and all members will be notified.
 12. As there was no further business to come before the RAG, Dr. Tuck thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:00 in order to get the booth opened in the House of Friendship.

Respectfully Submitted,
Harriett Schloer


Executive Secretary.