

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**2010 Annual Meeting**  
**Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention**  
**Sunday, May 22, 2011 - 7:00 AM**  
**Morial Convention Center**  
**New Orleans, LA (USA)**

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.
2. **Minutes:** Minutes of the 2010 Annual meeting were read by the Executive Secretary. It was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report was presented by the Exec Sec in the absence of the RAG Treasurer. It was moved and seconded that the report be approved as presented. Motion carried.
4. **Executive Secretary's Membership Report:** The ExecSec presented the annual membership report as follows:
  - a. Membership on June 30, 2010: 227
  - b. Members who resigned or were deceased: 0
  - c. New members as of July 1, 2010: 7
  - d. Members as of June 22, 2011: 234
5. **Resignations:** Chairman Tuck announced the resignation of PDG David Gallagher as our Treasurer.
6. **New Officers and Board Members:** Chairman Tuck then introduced the officers who have been elected to serve for the next three years. They are as follows:
  - a. Chairman - PDG Thomas Kwako
  - b. Vice Chairman - PDG Walt Schloer
  - c. Treasurer - PDG Phyllis Nusz
  - d. Executive Secretary - Harriett Schloer
  - e. Immediate Past Chairman - Dr. Kenneth D. Tuck, MC
  - f. Board Member: PDG Todd Lindley (3 year term)
  - g. Board Member: PDG Manjit Sawheny (3 year term)
  - h. Board Member: Gowry Rajan (3 year term)
  - i. Board Member: Selva Sunderaval (2 year term - completing the term of former Board member Phyllis Nusz)
  - j. Board Member: Gabriel Minder (2 year term - completing the term of former Board member Walt Schloer)
7. **Annual Elections:** Chairman Tuck then noted that per the changes made to the RAG Bylaws at the 2010 Convention in Montreal, the Board would be electing three new Board

members each year. If anyone is interested in serving as a Board member, they should contact the Executive Secretary by March 1, 2012.

8. **Future of the RAGS:** Chair-elect, PDG Tom Kwako then discussed the RAG Chairs General meeting that was held on Saturday with 2 members of the RI Board of Directors. Representing our RAG at the meeting were Vice-Chair Kwako, Chair Ken Tuck, and Exec. Secretary Harriett Schloer. Various matters of concern to the RAGS were brought up at the meeting which RI Director, John Smarge will be preparing to discuss at the September Board meeting in order to make revisions to the RAG Standard Bylaws and the RI Code of Policy. They include the following:
  - a. RAGS ability to apply for grant funding to support RAG administrative activities
  - b. RAGS being able to accept voluntary contributions from members to help with RAG administrative expenses
  - c. RAGS with "Lifetime Membership" only dues being able to assess their members an annual fee to cover the cost of exhibiting at the RI Convention and other agreed upon events
9. **Remain a RAG or become independent:** The ExecSec explained that due to changes made to the RAG Bylaws during the 2010-2011 year, several RAGS were looking at the possibility of becoming independent rather than remaining under the RI umbrella. However, the Board voted unanimously to remain with RI in order to be able to use all of the benefits related thereto including use of the Rotary name and all Rotary marks.
10. **Filing for Tax Exempt Status:** We will await news of the RI Board's decisions in September prior to filing for IRS Tax Exempt status. If the RAG Bylaws allows for grant funding that will cover RAG administrative status, we shall do the paperwork to become a 501(c)(3) organization.
11. **Exhibiting at future events:** The RAG will once again exhibit jointly at the RI Convention in Bangkok. Due to cost and import duties we will not be shipping our 10' Custom Booth. However, we will once again use the same display that we did in Birmingham and Montreal. The booth will be put into storage in Atlanta until 2017 with the next RI Convention will be held in the US. We will need to await the Board decision on assessment of members for annual exhibiting before we decide whether we will be able to exhibit at the AAO meeting this year.
12. **Annual Member Assessment for Convention Exhibitions:** Following discussions with an RI Staff member, the ExecSec did not send out the \$25 annual assessment to all members to help fund RI and AAO expenses. We will await the Board decisions in September to determine if this will be allowed.
13. **Blindness Prevention Donor Advised Fund:** Vice Chair-Elect and BP-DAF Administrator, PDG Walt Schloer 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. To date this year, the BP-DAF has awarded 24 grants to Blindness Prevention projects.
14. **2012 Board Meeting and Annual Meeting:** A majority of the Board have stated that they will be attending the RI Convention in Bangkok. ExecSec Schloer will make arrangements for the Board meeting and will also set up an annual meeting time for the RAG as soon as

RI make the applications available. The membership will be notified well in advance of the meeting date, place and time. We will also be posting a booth schedule so members can sign up to work in the booth.

15. **ISO 26000:2010:** Board member Gabriel Minder then addressed the group on "ISO 26000-2010" a new set of standards that provide guidance for organizations on "Social Responsibility". He addressed the importance of this new standard and how it will not only affect but help organizations such as Rotary International that are engaged in humanitarian work. As it is so new, we have not heard about it yet, but there are those that have heard about it and are already beginning to use it. Minder stated that Rotary districts in Europe have already adopted the standard and are starting to implement it and plan to submit a resolution for adoption to the 2013 COL. For information purposes, a copy of the ISO26000 brochure will be included in the June 2011 RAG Newsletter. For additional information you can visit the ISO web site at [http://www.iso.org/iso/iso\\_catalogue/management\\_and\\_leadership\\_standards/social\\_responsibility/sr\\_discovering\\_iso26000.htm](http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/management_and_leadership_standards/social_responsibility/sr_discovering_iso26000.htm)
16. As there was no further business to come before the annual meeting of the RAG membership, Dr. Tuck made his closing remarks and thanked the RAG for allowing him to serve as the chair for the past seven years. Vice Chair Kwako then asked for a vote of gratitude and appreciation for Dr. Tuck and his leadership at which time everyone stood to honor him. Vice Chair Kwako then thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:10 AM in order open the booth in the House of Friendship. Prior to departure, everyone gathered for photographs in the foyer outside the meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,



Harriett Schloer  
Executive Secretary.  
May 22, 2011