

Minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting of the IECFR)

DRAFT MINUTES

of the Annual Meeting of the
International Eye Care Fellowship of Rotarians
(now the "Rotarian Action Group for Blindness
Prevention") Wednesday, June 14, 2006 - Bella Center
RI Convention - Copenhagen, Denmark

The meeting was called to order by Fellowship Chair, Dr. Ken D. Tuck who welcomed all present and then introduced the officers and Board members.

Minutes: The minutes of the 2005 Annual Meeting were unanimously approved as printed and provided to all in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: As the Fellowship Treasurer, Dr. David Gallagher, was not present in Copenhagen, he provided a written financial report that was presented by the Secretary. The report was unanimously approved as printed by all members present at the meeting.

Secretary's Report: Fellowship Secretary, Harriett Schloer, presented the following report on the Fellowship's membership:

- Members as of June 1, 2006 193
- Members registered during the 2006 Convention 4
- Total number of Registered Members 197

Fellowship Newsletter: It is the desire of the Fellowship to have a quarterly newsletter with articles based on the work that the fellowship's members are doing around the world. The Chairman discussed the appropriate format for submitting articles and items for inclusion in the Fellowship Newsletter . . . "Visions" in order to insure they will be published. The following guidelines must be followed if fellowship members wish to have their articles included.

- Submit all articles in Microsoft Word format
- Send the Word document as an attachment to Email (not as a part of the email itself)
- Photos which are to be included with the article also need to be sent as attachments to email (not included as part of the Word Document)
- All items are to be submitted directly to the Chairman for review prior to publication. The chairman will then forward all approved items to the Secretary to produce the newsletter.
- Articles sent as an email message only will not be used

Someone asked why the fellowship even needed a newsletter. The secretary stated that as a Rotary Fellowship we are REQUIRED to produce at least one newsletter annually in order to retain our fellowship status. The Secretary must submit a copy of this newsletter(s) to RI

when filing the annual fellowship report.

Fellowship Web Site: A discussion was held on the proper format for submitting items for posting to the Fellowship web site. The Chairman stated that the same format needs to be followed for submitting items for the web site that is used when submitting items for the newsletter. However, items for the web site can be sent to either the Chairman or the Secretary who also serves as the fellowship's webmaster. Once again, Email messages will not be accepted for inclusion.

New Business

1. **Becoming a Rotary Action Group:** After discussion it was moved and seconded and unanimously approved that the Eye Care Fellowship be converted to a Rotarian Action Group. The actual name for the group will be left to the Board to decide. Once the new name as been selected, the Secretary will inform Rotary International and will process any and all paperwork necessary to make the change. As the 2006-2007 RI Official Directory has already been printed, the IECFR will not appear as a RAG until the next Rotary year.
2. **Participation in the AAO Convention:** One of the fellowship members asked why the fellowship participates with a booth at the annual American Academy of Ophthalmology Convention. It was explained that it gives the fellowship excellent exposure to tens of thousands of Ophthalmologists and suppliers of products used by them and that we are able to develop partnerships and recruit volunteer doctors for projects and get items donated. Those present agreed that this participation should continue in the future as it is beneficial to the overall work of the Fellowship.
3. **Custom Booth for Fellowship Use:** A discussion was then held on the feasibility of purchasing a custom-built booth that could be used for all future conventions in North America as well as the annual AAO meeting and various Zone Institutes. The cost would run between \$1500 - \$2500. The Secretary will work with various companies to get bids on the booth. In order to decrease the cost, the bid will be joined with two other Rotary booths for conventions in order to get a price break. The Secretary and Chairman will make the final decision on the booth. This was unanimously approved by the fellowship.
4. **An invitation for membership in the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB).** Chairman, Ken, stated that we had been invited to become a member of the IAPB. A discussion took place on whether or not a Rotary Fellowship could, indeed, "join" a group such as this. Honorary Chair, Frank J. Devlyn, stated that he would check with Rotary International on the feasibility of this. There is a