



ललित धारा

RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty Past President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha Secretary: Mahendra S. Rawal

Issue No. 1360

Date: 1 Ashadh 2077 / 15 June 2020

<p><u>Today's Programme:</u></p> <p>Regular Weekly Meeting</p>	<p><u>Congratulatory Events</u></p> <p><u>Birthdays:</u> Rtn. Ramesh L. Maskay – 12 June</p> <p><u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u> Nil</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1709

Date: 26 Jestha 2077 / 8 June 2020

1. President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa called the virtual RCP Meeting No. 1709 through 'Google Meet' to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Rotaract Club of Patan IPP Rtr. Peshal Bhattarai
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Pledges of 'Happy News/Sunshine' contribution and to the Operational Fund marked as 'OF':
 - Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi – for getting a haircut after 3 months during the lockdown (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 500), Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty (NRs. 500), Rtn. Kiran Thapa (NRs. 500), and Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal (NRs. 500), - for today's talk programme of Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal.
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – for getting a new nick name (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht – for Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal's talk programme and for updating on the latest Lancet research with guidelines on physical distancing/use of mask (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtns. Matsyendra L. & Chandralekha Kayastha – for the completion of 44 years of their office (NRs. 1,000 each).
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for the participation of Rtn. Krishna B. Basnyat in the virtual meeting (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – for good weight control during the lockdown period till now (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Lalita Thapa – for Rtn. Bisht Rawal's talk programme and Rtn. Basnyat's participation today (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha – for good participation in today's virtual meeting (NRs. 500 to OF).
5. Rotary News/Information:
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty informed of the KPAD Trust Fund balance investment at 11% interest rate at Shree Finance, thanks to Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey obtaining this special rate exceptionally for the RCP.
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang briefed about the District's webinar on Literacy he and Rtn. Lalita Thapa had participated. A handbook is being prepared and request was made that clubs earmark funding for Literacy programmes.
 - President Rtn. Lalita Thapa briefed on the District's webinar with the RI General Secretary Rtn. John Hewko as the keynote speaker. Several RCP members had participated. A TRF/Grant Management seminar is also being held on 11 June 2020 to which participation from the RCP members were requested.
 - President Rtn. Lalita Thapa briefed on the NRCL's half day strategic planning workshop on 6 June 2020, which she had coordinated. The network had started in 2003 initiated by Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary. Key areas of the workshop were - (i) briefing on the evolution of the NRCL, (ii) understanding of the past initiatives & way forward, and (iii) proposing priorities for the next two years. NRCL's new Chair will be Rtn. Suresh Acharya from the Rotary Club of Kopundole.
 - Rtr. Peshal Bhattarai informed that the Godavari Interact Club at the St. Xavier's school had finalized the TOR for approval of the RCP. He also mentioned that he was nominated in two District Rotary Committees – RYLA Committee and Interact Committee.

- Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty mentioned about the election of Rtr. Kritika Sharma as the President of the Rotaract Club of Patan for 2020-2021. A motion of congratulations to her was passed by the 'House'.
 - Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty also electronically shared a power point presentation explaining the PCR/RDT tests for Covid-19.
 - Suggestions were made to register for the virtual RI Convention of this year, which is free of cost.
6. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – RC Abashiri, Hokkaido, Japan; Chartered: 1953 & Members: 42. District: 2500, Clubs: 66 & Members: 2294.
7. A contribution of NRs. 9,000 was pledged (NRs. 8,500 for the sunshine fund and NRs. 500 for the 'OF' of the RCP). Attendance: 28 members and 1 Rotaract.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty

- Q.** Keynote speaker at the virtual 'TRF Seminar & Recognition Programme' of District 3292 on 2 June 2020
A. Past Rotary International President and Chair (2019-20) of Trustees of the Rotary Foundation, Rtn. Gary Huang
- Q.** On 27 May 2020, Past RI President Frank J. Devlyn passed away. His nationality and the Theme during his RY 2000-2001
A. Country - Mexico and Theme - 'Create Awareness - Take Action'
- Q.** Name the two official Mottos of Rotary **A.** 'Service Above Self' and 'One Profits Most Who Serves Best'.

Summary of talk programme by Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal on gender-based violence

Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal gave her talk on gender-based violence supported by a comprehensive power point presentation on the global situation with specific focus on the situation in Nepal. She briefed on her own experience in this area and started with the preamble that "if we want our children to grow in a loving and happy environment, our family and society must be made violence-free for women".

Rtn. Bisht Rawal covered the areas: definition of violence against women, its nature and where it happens; national and international mechanisms to deal with violence against women; situation during Covid-19 pandemic; and what Rotary could do in this regard.

According to WHO, in 2017 one in three women experienced physical or sexual violence around the world. In Nepal, according to Nepal Police, 78.84% of violence against women were domestic violence, followed by 11.59% of rape in 2075-2076. Similarly, Nepal Women's Commission classified 89% as domestic violence and 11% as violence against women in the same year. All the data at the local, national, and global level suggest excessive violence against women. Moreover, it is estimated that some 70% of cases are not reported.

She gave several examples of violence routed in the culture of Nepalese society and even when violence is reported, societal leaders and police often try to avoid legal remedy depriving women of their rights.

Rtn. Bisht Rawal categorized and explained about four types of violence against women – sexual violence, physical violence, mental violence, and economic violence, affecting women in all aspects of their life. Violence against women are committed by those in power for dominance, power projection, pride, revenge, and obstruction. It is committed in the family, workplace, community, society and at the state level.

There are several international protocols/agreements and declarations that States have signed to deal with violence against women and in the case of Nepal the latest law replacing the 'Mulki Ain' was announced in 2074 B.S. There are organisational structures at every level of the government with laws prescribing the punishments, but in practice they are inadequate. Continued efforts to recognise, raise awareness and provide legal remedy are the challenges of the day.

Rotary can support at all levels of the government to collaborate in raising awareness and alleviating violence against women. 'Women in Rotary' movement should be supported to bring about change from within at all levels of Rotary itself. A friendly environment for women in the clubs including an increase in the proportion of women would go a long way towards supporting violence against women and gender equality. She concluded by appreciating the RCP as an example in this regard.

Following a brief Q/A session, on behalf of all present, President Rtn. Lalita Thapa thanked Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal for an excellent and professionally researched presentation.