

Issue No. 1404

Date: 20 Baishakh 2078 / 3 May 2021

<p><u>Today's Programme:</u> Business Meeting</p> <p><u>Forthcoming Programme:</u> 10 May – Regular Weekly Meeting 17 May – Talk Programme by Dr. Rinjan Amatya, WWF Canada, on 'Big Cats of Nepal'</p>	<p><u>Congratulatory Events</u></p> <p><u>Birthdays:</u> Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan – 2 May Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha – 4 May</p> <p><u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u> Rtn. Shanta K. & Nirmala Shrestha – 3 May</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1752

Date: 13 Baishakh 2078 / 26 April 2021

1. President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang called the virtual meeting No. 1752, to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for Nepal & world peace, health, and happiness.
2. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
3. Pledges of 'Happy News/Sunshine' contribution and to the Operational Fund marked as 'OF':
 - Rtn. Yagya B. Shrestha – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000)
 - Rtns. Kiran and Lalita C. Thapa – for 38th 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' (NRs. 2,000).
 - Rtns. Padam L. & Kamala Maharjan – for 42nd 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – for elder brother's health stabilising (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty – for the good health of all members during this pandemic, and for daughter Smriti's article on COVID-19 in India published in 'Nature' referred to by the New York Times (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for getting the 2nd dose of the Covishield vaccine (NRs. 500 to OF).
4. Other Contributions:

Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty announced a contribution of NRs. 120,000 to the PEEF Trust Fund by son Ajaya and daughter-in-law Dr. Anu from the USA.
5. Rotary News/Information:
 - President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang informed the following:
 - Since there was no contest, Rtn. Rajendra P. Dhoju has been nominated as the District Governor Nominee.
 - The planned District public image and membership seminar on 1 May 2021 will now be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - The planned NRCL meeting being hosted by RC Kopundole on 28 April 2021 will also be held virtually.
 - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht briefed on the RCP's sub-group meeting with Sneha's Care to review the latter's proposal on rabies vaccine from the RCP's Animal Welfare for Public Health programme sponsored by Dr. Mukti Narayan and Praveena Foundation. The experience from the last year's vaccination would be taken into account, and the plan would also be made a part of a national strategy. Collaboration with the local government and fund-raising efforts would also be a part of the programme.
 - Members discussed various issues related to the current situation of COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal and the forthcoming restrictions in the Kathmandu valley announced by the government effective Thursday, 29 April 2021.
6. Salutation: By IPP Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa - RC of Karachi Bay, Sind, Pakistan; Chartered: 2003; and Members: 34. District: 3271, Clubs: 78, and Members: 1416.
7. Before the closure of the meeting by the President, the Secretary announced: total contribution pledges of NRs. 5,500 (NRs. 500 to the OF and NRs. 5,000 to the sunshine fund of the RCP), attendance: 27 members.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Kiran Thapa

- Q. What is the main purpose of the Rotary International Assembly?
A. A training meeting to prepare district governors-elect for their role as governor.
- Q. What is the theme of Rotary President 2021-22, Shekhar Mehta?
A. Serve to Change Lives.
- Q. When was the Inner Wheel Club of Patan established?
A. 6 April 1994.

Rotary Information

(Source: rotary.org)

Survey aims to enhance, understand member experience with diversity, equity, inclusion

Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) is a top priority for Rotary International, one that underscores the core values that are a foundation for how members interact with each other and their communities. Over the last two years, the RI Board of Directors have taken steps to cement Rotary's commitment to being an organization that sets the standard for valuing and living the principals of DEI.

In 2019 the Board adopted Rotary's DEI statement that affirms its commitment to DEI and recognizes that welcoming people with differing perspectives and ideas enhances Rotary's ability to create lasting change in communities worldwide. In 2020, the Board convened a task force that will shape a comprehensive DEI action plan with achievable, measurable, and meaningful outcomes for Rotary.

It's crucial that everyone who engages with Rotary -- no matter who they are in the world, or how long they have been connected with Rotary -- to feel valued, respected, and welcomed. Rotary's capacity for doing good is amplified when we not only welcome, but actively invite, a variety of experiences, cultures, and perspective.

While progress has been made, Rotary recognizes that DEI is an ever-evolving principal that needs continued growth to succeed and flourish. To do this, Rotary has engaged the DEI advisors at PwC, a global network of firms providing professional services, to help us assess and better understand how DEI is perceived and experienced by Rotary members across the globe. As part of this process, we will review our policies and procedures, conduct interviews with Rotary leadership and survey our members.

One of the goals of the survey is to learn whether diversity is valued and championed at the club and district level, among Rotary senior leaders, and if people feel respected, accepted, and included in all engagements and interactions with Rotary. The survey will also give an understanding of how survey respondents perceive equity in opportunity and access to leadership opportunities, and whether DEI is the same across all respondents, no matter their backgrounds.

The survey is a primary tool to collect input and feedback from members and other Rotary participants regarding DEI and to understand what is working, and identify opportunities to improve at club, district, and leadership levels.

Data from the survey, along with focus groups, interviews, and documentation reviews will help Rotary create an actionable and measurable plan to effectuate change. This is just the beginning of Rotary's extended, ongoing journey of learning and discovery and we will provide updates as we learn more.

22 April 2021