

.....MINUTES

Annual Meeting

Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention

Monday – June 16, 2008 –8:00 AM

Los Angeles Convention Center

Los Angeles, California (USA)

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:20 AM (after the doors were unlocked) by RAG Executive Secretary, Harriett Schloer. RAG Chairman, Dr. Ken Tuck had to fly to Chicago for a meeting of the AAO and could not be present. Vice Chair, PDG Tom Kwako was not able to attend the convention due to the sudden illness of his aged mother. Schloer then introduced the Board members who were present to all attendees. There were a total of 18 individuals in attendance at the Annual meeting. Due to the size of the group, the meeting was “informal” but followed the prepared agenda that was distributed to all present.
2. **Approval of the 2007 Annual Meeting minutes:** Copies of the 2007 Annual meeting minutes were provided to all present. ExecSec Schloer asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, it was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.
3. **Secretary’s Report:** The RAG Secretary’s report which had previously been approved by the Board of Directors was approved as presented (*report included herewith*).
4. **Treasurer’s Report:** The Treasurer’s report, which had previously been approved by the Board of Directors was approved as presented (*report included herewith*).
5. **Unfinished Business**
 - a. **Draft of a Strategic Plan for the RAG:** Secretary Schloer presented the draft of the Strategic Plan that was approved by the Board of Directors at their annual meeting on Sunday morning. It was moved and seconded to approve the plan as presented. Motion carried. A copy of the Draft Strategic Plan is attached herewith.
 - b. **RAG ByLaws:** The Secretary provided an overview of the current discrepancy between the RAG ByLaws and the Standard RAG ByLaws as required by RI. All present voted to retain the current RAG ByLaws and submit a request to RI to allow the RAG to elect its officers and Board members as it is currently doing because each member of the RAG should be able to vote for each individual RAG leader rather than the Board selecting the officers. The members were adamant in their feelings in this matter. The ExecSec will work with RI and will inform the membership of RI’s decision.
 - c. **Participation in AAO and other Conventions:** The Secretary reported on the RAG’s continuing participation in the AAO convention, Vision West Expo, Unite for Sight at Yale University and the RI Convention and presented the expenses related in doing so, including the cost of permanent carpeting for all Las Vegas exhibits and the heavy duty shipping cases need to ship the booth and all supplies related thereto. It was moved and seconded to approve continued participation in these events as the contacts made enable the RAG to further its international humanitarian work. Motion carried.
 - d. **RAG Custom Booth for Asia:** As yet, there has been no progress on developing an additional booth for exhibiting in Asia. This will be carried over to the next RI Convention for review and

discussion..

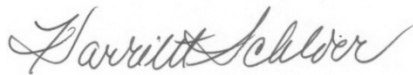
- e. **RAG Newsletter:** The Secretary once again reported that she is not receiving enough material to publish a RAG newsletter on a quarterly basis. There will be an issue of the newsletter published following the RI convention. She encouraged any and all present to submit articles of interest as they occur.

6. New Business

- a. **Online Election Results:** The RAG Secretary updated those present on the results of this year's online elections for the three Board positions which were expiring. Following a general call for nominations, five candidates were presented for the three positions and the online elections were held. A total of 209 individuals were eligible to vote with 88 members casting votes (42.11%). Online voting remained open for a period of two weeks. A copy of the voting results is attached to these minutes. The following individuals were elected to 3-year terms on the RAG Board:
 - i. **Philippe Carol (Belgium)**
 - ii. **PDG Rekha Shetty (India)**
 - iii. **Dr. Ravishankar Kowshik Venkatasubbiah (India)**
- b. **Advisors to the Board:** ExecSec Schloer also announced that the Board will continue to retain the input and services of former Board members Selvarajah Sunderavel and Kulasegaran Sabaratnam as "Advisors to the Board of Directors".
- c. **Blindness Prevention Workshop:** ExecSec Schloer provided an overview of the Blindness Prevention Workshop that would be held later in the day and encouraged all to attend.
- d. **Good of the Order**
 - i. **Dates for Board meeting and Annual meeting in Birmingham 2009:** ExecSec Schloer announced that as soon as the dates for the 2009 Board meeting and Annual meeting are confirmed, they will be posted on the RAG web site. The RAG will be exhibiting at the convention but will not be shipping the booth due to the expense. Alternative exhibit options will be considered.

- 7. **Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Harriett Schloer
Executive Secretary
Rotarian Action Group for Blindness Prevention