The Rotary Club of Holland Board Minutes

Date: May 27, 2026

Attendance:

Present

Kathy DeVries (Chair), Ed Swart (President), vacant (President-Elect), John Hoekstra (Secretary), Chuck Warren (Treasurer), David Meier (Sergeant at Arms), Mark Recoulley (2026), Michael Moraw (2026), Loren Meengs (2027), Bonnie McManus (2028), Bob Nida (2028)

Absent

Kate Fornarotto (Incoming President)

Guests

none

Business

1. Call to Order. **Action>** Kathy called the meeting to order at 11:10 am
2. The minutes of the April board meeting were approved.
3. The club financial reports were accepted.
4. Chuck believes that the transfer of people authorized to sign checks is complete.
5. The proposed budget for 2026-27 contains the addition of money to join the chamber of commerce. A discussion was had about representation to the chamber and there were enough officers and board members willing to attend chamber functions. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to add money to join the chamber.
6. The proposed club budget for 2026-27 was approved along with the recommended amount of $966.22 annual dues per club member. Club demographics were discussed, noting the high average age and the continued decline in membership. Ed will work on how to present the approved budget to the members.
7. Mark reported that there are 3 prospective members to which he has been talking. Ed mentioned another 3 that are possibilities.
8. The ad hoc committee on the constitution and bylaws are meeting on 28 May and should have proposed changes ready for the June board meeting.
9. David and Bob are working on changes to the member badges. They would like to have badges that are hung around the neck and can be put away in a smaller container than we currently use.
10. Kate was unable to connect via Zoom and could not report on programs, meeting presiders, the EPIC day of service, or Tulip Time.
11. Rather than receive another Paul Harris Fellowship (PHF) for his service as President (as is customary), Ed would like to present one to our newest member and one to the longest serving member without a PHF. There are enough points that this will not require any monetary expenditure. The board approved of Ed doing this.

12. John reported on 2 pieces of correspondence that he received. One is from the Rotary Ideals Literacy Project, which will be passed on to the community service committee. The second was from a candidate running for state senate. John will respond with an explanation of the non-partisan nature of Rotary.
13. Adjourn. **Action>** Kathy adjourned the meeting at 12:02 pm.

John Hoekstra, secretary

The Holland Rotary **Charities Board** Minutes

Date: May 27, 2026

Attendance:

Present

Kathy DeVries (Chair), Ed Swart (President), vacant (President-Elect), John Hoekstra (Secretary), Chuck Warren (Treasurer), David Meier (Sergeant at Arms), Mark Recoulley (2026), Michael Moraw (2026), Loren Meengs (2027), Bonnie McManus (2028), Bob Nida (2028)

Absent

Kate Fornarotto (Incoming President)

Guests

none

Business

1. Call to Order. **Action>** Kathy called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm
2. The minutes from the April meeting were approved.
3. The financial reports were accepted.
4. Chuck reported that the prizes for the photo contest that were adjusted because of conflict of interest have been awarded.
5. Community Action House representatives will be present at the 28 May meeting to accept the motorized shopping cart.
6. Mike had a contact from the organization "Our Teacher Resource Store", which supplies teachers. They work with the Grand Rapids schools and would like to expand to work with Holland Public. They would need a $7,000 grant to begin operating in Holland. The board requested that the Community Service Committee present their budget for 2026/27 with the projects they wish to fund.
7. Our inbound exchange student from Germany has a host family for the first stay. We need one or two more host families. He will be attending Holland High School.
8. Rebound exchange student Dee Rumpsa will host a graduation party at the Brew Merchant on 3 June. Inbound exchange student Namo will host a graduation party at his host family's house (Dan and Kate Bolt) on 8 Jun. Rotarians are encouraged to attend both of these parties.
9. Ed has arranged for a golf cart to shuttle attendees to the Hope College Bultman Student Center for the lunch with the Leaders for the 21st Century students. The center is a distance from any parking and people with mobility issues will have difficulty walking.
10. There are 6 students going to the Life Leadership Conference on 17 June. A driver is needed.
11. Kathy reported on the Kenya hospital project. It looks very promising. There are 4 Kenyan Rotary Clubs who are interested along with the county governments, which will end up owning and maintaining the hospital improvements. Kathy will work on putting together a presentation to be

given to other clubs in our district to raise funds. This is quite a large project and will improve the lives of a half million people.

12. Sue and Bert Franz were in contact with a Tanzanian Rotary Club when they were there recently. There is a project that they would like to pursue of about $10,000 with that club. Sue and Bert are willing to put up half the money if a match can be found.
13. We have HANWASH funds that will need to be returned to the district unless we disburse them by the end of June. We have completed phase 1 of the water project, the well drilling. Phase 2 is an engineering study of how to transport the water to the population. This is ready to proceed and Kathy believes that the money we are holding is for phase 2. The board voted to move the money to the HANWASH organization, if it is meant for phase 2.
14. The latest revision of the updated Holland Rotary Charities bylaws was reviewed. Budgets need to be created by the committees in order to create the expense budget for the Charities 2026/27 year. More clarification in the bylaws was suggested to give guidance on how the budget process works.
15. The size of the board was discussed along with the lack of historical knowledge. One possibility that was suggested is to include the immediate past presidents of both clubs on the board.
16. It was also noted that fundraising needs to be addressed. Is the charity responsible for fundraising?
17. There is approximately $22,000 in undesignated charity funds currently. If the current board wants to designate some or all of these funds before the new board takes over, it will need to be done in June.
18. Adjourn. **Action>** Kathy adjourned the meeting at 12:54 pm.

John Hoekstra, secretary