Kiwanis
NEBRASKA-IOWA DISTRICT

Hello everyone!

I want to update you on the Nebraska-Iowa District Foundation. We held our quarterly meeting on April 12 to consider grant applications and take care of other Foundation business.

As of March 31, 2023, 47 clubs have made their Annual Club Donation to the District Foundation. Those donations total $10,756. Thanks for your generosity. I don't have numbers on individual donations. Thanks for your generosity as well.

Five grant requests were submitted on time. One came in late. We will add that to the requests that are due June 1. Three of the five were funded either partially or fully. Two were sent back for revision and are being asked to submit again. One of those was for a playground project. It's a great project. Remember that the District Foundation does not help fund total construction projects like a playground or a building. The Board will consider requests to help fund a particular piece of playground equipment or supplies for a room in a building. Also, we need to see member participation and revenue from the club and other sources. Grants that were approved follow.

District Convention Committee requested help in funding the packaging of meals members will do at District Convention.

Spirit Lake Kiwanis Bike Rodeo grant will help cover cost of bikes and helmets.

West Des Moines Kiwanis asked for dollars for signage at Kiwanis Park.

What really helps with the grant process is having a Foundation Board Representative in your division. One of the duties of that person is to read over grant requests and give advice on making it a viable request. If your division has a board representative, please ask that person to read your grant before it's submitted to make sure all requirements are covered.

If your division does not have a board representative, please work hard to find one. It's very helpful to have a liaison at the board meeting when discussing grants. Divisions without representatives are 2, 4, 5, 10, 12,15, 18, 25.

That person must be a Donor Member of the Foundation at the $100 level. Candidates may pay that themselves, the clubs in the division can go together to pay that fee, or the person's club may pay that for him/her.

We approve new officers at the annual meeting on Aug. 4. Please submit names to me before then so we can vote on them with donor members of the Foundation Board Present. If you have questions, please contact me.

Information is being gathered pertaining to using Venmo or PayPal to make individual donations without having to write a check.

Updates are being made to by-laws. Revisions were shared and will be voted on in August with donor members of the Foundation Board Present.

All clubs with Camp OK Endowments have been contacted concerning what they want to do with their original investment. Some have asked to have that returned. Others have told us to leave it in the Foundation. The deadline for informing the Foundation of the decision has passed. The clubs that did not respond will have their funds left in the Foundation.

Please remember that the District has a Disaster Relief Fund. It is administered by a District Committee that receives the requests for funding and determines if the request is viable. The funds are held in the Foundation Treasury. When a disaster is declared in Nebraska or Iowa, clubs can request funds to benefit children and families in the area. Following the tornado in Coralville, the fund is low.

Donations are needed for the future so that when a disaster is declared, club's requests for funds can be fulfilled quickly. The form to donate and request funds is on the District Website under District Forms and Kiwanis Foundations—District Foundation—Forms. Individuals and clubs wishing to donate should write a check to NE-IA District Foundation and put Disaster Relief Fund in the memo. Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions about this fund and how it operates, please contact Jan Burch, district committee chair; Lonnie Shumate, Foundation treasurer; or myself.

As of Oct. 1, 2023, Shirley Daugherty will be president of the Foundation. She brings a wealth of experience and a passion for serving to this position. I will move into the position of immediate past president. This will be voted on at the Annual Meeting Aug. 4.

Thanks for reading.

Jody Melcher, president
Nebraska-Iowa District Foundation