

**Monona Grove Optimist Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 15, 2005**

1. The meeting was called to order by V. P. Jennifer Miescke at 7:10 A.M.

Roll Call:

Board members present: Jennifer Miescke, Tom Wellman Judy Dassow, John King, Gary Rice, Maureen Crombie, Tim Turino, Karen Paulson.

Board members absent: David Johnson, Roger Weldon, Rich O'Connor, Dana G, Barb, Jim K.

2. Approval of minutes from Oct. 18 Board meeting moved by Tim T, seconded, Tom Wellman

3. Poinsettia update: Tim, alias Dr. Plant

- a. Sales are down from last year. Tim needs updated phone numbers on the Member list. He will work from the old list and start updating.
- b. Plants will be dropped off at Tim's office on Tuesday, Nov. 29.
- c. PTO will help sell Poinsettias – and wants them delivered Dec. 9. However school groups may sell independently of PTO.

4. YMCA Donation update: On hold until we approve the budget.

5. Budget :John King

- a. Budget committee met and presented a summary and proposed budget.
- b. Discussion of Winterfest as a budget item
 - Winterfest is way over budget. Budget has been cut in order to balance. We need to look at everything we spend here.
 - It was suggested that we ask businesses for support for scholarships – since that is a lot of what we do.
 - We discussed the past history of Winterfest – which began as an outdoor event, with winter softball and food sales, raffle tickets, thus more sources of revenue.
 - Suggested that we use more local groups and not hire an entertainer.
 - Printing costs have been high. Flyer distribution to schools is important, but we have to spend less on printing. Possibly check out email promotion, school websites, community TV, other community events.

- Also, there has been low attendance for the amount of effort put in.
 - Tri Star explanation: a skill event – free throws, passing, dribbling. Boys and girls ages 8-13. Judy Dassow will check to see if other clubs are promoting this event, and try to do it jointly with them.
 - Event is scheduled for the first Saturday in March.
- c. Budget committee wants guidelines on where Business donations will go.- i.e. scholarships.
 - d. We need to approve the budget – items were left out in order to present a balanced budget.
 - e. There is a line item for corporate donations - \$2,500. New way to ask for donations this year, not for Winterfest, but for scholarships.
 - f. Discussion of budget requests
 - Why do we give to WMCA? Sponsor a team with t-shirts with our logo.
 - We need to look at all requests for funds to see if we really need to give, i.e. WMCA – should we instead help individual kids.
 - g. Tom moved the adoption of the budget, Gary seconded, with these changes : add \$2500 for donations, and add \$1300 on the expense side for youth activities. Motion approved.
 - h. Jim K and John King are working on a policy for the board to control expenses. Basic summary: If something has already been approved and is a line item in the budget, it doesn't need board approval. Special projects – Kidsway, Winterfest, - committee chair needs to approve the individual amounts. If the project will exceed the budgeted amount, then it must come to the board. All items not in the budget must come to the board. The complete policy will be voted on at the next board meeting.
 - i. YMCA donation. Tim T moved that we give \$250 to the WMCA to sponsor a team, provided there are still T-shirts with our name on them. Judy Dassow will check. Judy seconded. Motion approved.
6. Christmas Program – date – discuss at next Optimist meeting. Tim McNurlen, Santa? Christmas present for Ganni, Jill.
 7. Meeting adjourned: 8:07.

Next board meeting: Tuesday, December 20, 2005 at 7:00 a.m. at City Hall.

Karen Paulson,
Secretary.