

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5950
WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE**

Report of Meeting, December 12, 2007

The District 5950 World Community Service (WCS) Committee (Committee) met on December 12, 2007. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Bruce Hedblom, at 3:34 p.m. The following committee members and guests attended all, or part, of the meeting:

Committee Voting Members:

DGSC Bruce Hedblom, Minneapolis #9; DGE Chris Holm, Minneapolis #9; Joel Jennings, Edina; Ellen Kennedy, Edina; Earl Milbrath, Chanhassen; Dave Paxson, Minneapolis #9; John Richter, Minneapolis #9; Cheryl Schraeder, Eden Prairie A.M.; David Sennes, Bloomington; Sandy Schley, Edina; and Karin Treiber, Minneapolis City of Lakes.

Guests:

Jill Kohler, Wayzata; Tim Murphy, Edina; and Amy Schuett, Wayzata.

The Committee briefly reviewed the report of the meeting of November 14, 2007, and the summary of projects approved so far this year. This material had been sent to the Committee via e-mail prior to the meeting. At that meeting, Matching Grant Projects 2007-08 #18 and 2007-08 #19 had received approval conditional on District Designated Funds (DDF) being available from District 5950. The Chair reported that an additional allocation of funding had just been made, and that both of those projects would be fully funded. The additional funding will also provide money for the project to be considered at the December meeting.

MATCHING GRANT REQUESTS

Project 2007-08 #22

<u>Rotary Clubs</u>	<u>Club Contributions</u>
Wayzata	\$4,045.50
Minnetonka	\$1,000.00
Orono	\$ 500.00

Los Chilos Milenio \$ 100.00

District 4400 (Ecuador) \$ 175.00

Host Country: Ecuador

5950 DDF Requested: \$5,545.50 **Total Project:**
 \$19,909.14

Project Description: Purchase therapy and skill development equipment for a school for handicapped children in Sangolqui, Ecuador.

Contact: **Jill Kohler, Wayzata** Rotary Club;
Phone: (w) 952-404-9388; (h) 763-473-5304; E-Mail: jkohler@iocp.org

Status: **Approved**

SUMMARY OF MATCHING GRANT ACTIVITY FOR 2007-2008

With approval of project 2007-08 #22, the WCS Committee has allocated all of the available DDF funds that have been provided by District 5950. A total of 16 matching grant projects were approved during the year, involving 18 host countries. A total of 35 Clubs provided a total of \$133,740 for these 16 projects, and those contributions were matched with \$120,652 in District Designated Funds. When the contributions from host country clubs and districts are added in, and The Rotary Foundation matching funds are considered, these 16 projects have a total value of \$491,538.

REQUESTS FOR FAST FOR HOPE MATCHING FUNDS

There were no requests submitted for consideration at this meeting.

SUMMARY OF DISTRICT FAST FOR HOPE PROJECT ACTIVITY FOR 2007-2008

International humanitarian projects that for one reason or another do not qualify for matching grant funds through The Rotary Foundation may, at the discretion of the WCS Committee, be provided funds from the District's Fast for Hope program. In 2007-2008, six projects of this nature were brought to the Committee for consideration, and all six were fully matched. Rotary Clubs contributed \$16,500 to these projects, and the District provided dollar

for dollar matching funds. A total of five Clubs were involved in these six projects, and the six projects were located in four countries.

When the \$33,000 in funding for Fast for Hope projects is added to the Matching Grant activity summarized above, **the total humanitarian project support from our Clubs, and our District, amounts to \$287,392. When the support of TRF, and host country contributors is included, the total value is \$524,538!**

OTHER MATTERS

The Committee discussed the group's internal operating procedures that have been in place for several years. There was reluctance to make changes at this time, and a strong desire on the part of the members that the Committee should retain as much flexibility as possible as it considers requests for matching grants that receive DDF funding, and for non-matching grant projects that are supported by Fast for Hope dollars.

DGE Chris Holm commented on the approach he would like the District to follow in 2008-2009 as far as WCS is concerned. He wants Clubs in the District to focus (to the extent feasible) on several key areas, including Ecuador, Africa, India, and Haiti. (There will of course be areas of interest in other parts of the world in which individual clubs might want to be involved.) He will be encouraging visits by groups of District Rotarians to each of these areas, and is hoping to have even more involvement by the smaller Clubs in matching grant projects next year. He will be aggressively trying to get District Clubs to be working on matching grant projects between now and July 1, so that the projects will be ready for submission early in the Rotary year.

The WCS Committee will meet again as soon as projects for next year are submitted. Committee members also volunteered to be available to serve as resource contacts for Clubs that might not be familiar with the matching grant process.

Announcements

The next meeting of the District WCS Committee will be scheduled by the Chair sometime after the first of 2008. For now, the Committee will not meet on a regular schedule until such time as we have Fast for Hope or 2008-2009 matching grant requests to consider.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Hedblom, Chair