

Minutes Annual Meeting

Sept 28, 2024, via Zoom

Board members Attending: Antonio Hallage, Jhinsup JJ Jhung, Margie Kersey, Toni McAndrew, Tim Moore, Leila Ristelli, George Sundararaj, Paul Muczynski, Mike McGovern, Kalcho Hinov, Bryn Styles, Tim Schuler, Jacques de Costanzo, Mary Ellen Bentler

Absent: Binod Khaitan, Frank Wargo, Adriana de la Fuente, Tunji Funsho, Kalcho Hinov, Seiji Kita, Nicholas Zalles

Attendees: 55

Votes:

No Votes

Future Action:

A call for an email vote on a slate of board members will be sent when the nominating committee has finalized the list

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 Eastern time by Chair Antonio Hallage who welcomed the attendees.

Announcements were made by Executive Director, Paul Muczynski. He noted that RLI has expanded and grown over the past year. Two new divisions were added: Cambodia and D9103 West Africa which includes Congo, Nigeria, and Benin. Paul also gave an update on Frank Wargo who recently had brain surgery. He is at home and recovering well. You may send supportive emails to Frank at frank.wargo@snet.net

Treasurer Mary Ellen Bentler briefly reviewed the financial statements and reminded everyone that they will be available on the website for a detailed review. We currently have \$64,953.45 in our account. We have collected \$8900 in dues so far. She reminded divisions to submit their dues as soon as possible. She also noted that we had to refund \$2950 in dues erroneously paid.

Curriculum Chair, Margie Kersey reported that English versions of our curriculum are available on rotaryleadershipinstitute.org. Non-English versions will be moved in the future, but are currently available at rlifiles.com

She also made these announcements:

- Volunteers are still welcome, particularly translation help
- She would like copies of curriculum developed at the Division level
- The teams will begin work on the Grad classes soon
- Please send your grad class requests to her

Chair Hallage noted that he would like the graduate classes to focus on transferable skills (skills that can be immediately used in the club and business). Margie agreed with the focus and asked Divisions to share grad classes they may already have developed.

Paul Muczynski and Bryn Styles reported on the International Convention in Calgary and shared that we will have a booth in the House of Friendship as well as an RLI Breakfast. The event will be at the Marriott Downtown and there will only be 100 tickets for the breakfast. Tickets should be \$50 USD. Information will be published in the newsletter. Bryn encouraged us to submit a request for a breakout session as well. The deadline to submit is 14 October.

Mike McGovern thanked Hallage, Frank Wargo, and Paul Muczynski for manning the RLI booth in the House of Friendship for most of the time in Singapore. He also thanked George Sundararaj for arranging the breakfast and obtaining a sponsor to reduce the cost to the attendees.

Hallage announced that the nominating committee will be chaired by Past Chair Mike McGovern. They are still assembling their committee with the goal of having a representative from each continent. A final slate will be presented for a vote by email.

The Awards committee for 2025 was appointed and consists of:

- Chair Bryn Styles, Canada
- Juan Pedro Torroba, Argentina

- Margie Kersey, USA
- George Sundararaj, India

Communications Officer, Margie Kersey announced that there are three episodes of the RLII podcast published now and a fourth one to be published shortly. She encouraged everyone to visit the RLI website to link to the podcasts. She also requested that Divisions forward information for the newsletter. She suggested that Divisions also submit the names and emails of key members of their team so they may receive the newsletter directly as well as invitations to the Annual Meeting.

The meeting then moved to comments, questions, and answers from the attendees. Some divisions noted that they had not received their invoices yet. Mary Ellen will follow up with each of them and Margie will update the database.

George Sundararaj announced that he would be in Oakland, California from 13 November to 9 December and would be interested in participating as a facilitator in any RLI events during that period. Contact him at: geopris12@gmail.com

Edgar Allain of Atlantic RLI volunteered to help with curriculum development based on his experience with the Maxwell Leadership Group.

Chair Hallage thanked everyone for attending. The Zoom recording and minutes will be available on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40

The 2024 award recipients (can be seen on rlifiles.com):

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| • David Linett Distinguished Service | Dr. Tunji Funsho, Nigeria |
| • David Linett Distinguished Service | Stan Lee, Taiwan |
| • Michael Rabasca Outstanding Achievement | Nicholas Zalles, Bolivia |