

## **Swarthmore Rotary Meeting Notes:**

**August 27 2025**

Attendees: George Whitfield, Charlie Pell, Rosemary Fox, Jane Billings, Hillard Pouncy, Lori Markusfeld, Carr Everbach, Vikki Shelter, Lisa O'Mahony, Elizabeth Church.

Minutes from July were approved.

Treasurer: (Joe)

Treasurer's report for July was approved. Current balance is \$14,197.59. The Club has prepaid a semester of Mohammed's rent.

Departmental Reports

Programming: (Hillard)

Hillard has reached out for feedback on classification talks. All feedback was positive. Hilliard has enough in the pipeline to keep us going for some time.

Membership: (Carr)

We have about 55 members. A few come and few go, but we are doing quite well. Classification talks help generate interest. Carr reminds us to reach out to friends who may be interested in Rotary. Especially younger people! Best strategy seems to be word of mouth!

Rotary Arts: (Ken)

The next Rotary Arts conversation is September 19. The speaker will be author Martha Hodes.

Rotary Foundation: (Elizabeth)

Our Club's contributions to the Rotary Foundation are high. We are being interviewed by Rotary leadership to determine what our 'secret' is!

Service Projects: (Lisa)

We are coordinating with Lynn Cohen from the Red Cross on a project to assemble Emergency Kits for homeless veterans. The kits will be assembled at the Club meeting on September 18; the Red Cross will deliver them at a later date.

Lori Riggs from Hope for Hallie will apply for a Club grant to purchase purple light bulbs. The bulbs will be sold during October (World Mental Health Day is October 10) in a project to "Shine the Light on Mental Health." Bulbs will be sold at the Coop, Farmers' Market, and through SHHS Interact.

Youth/Interact: (Vicki)

School has just started. Vicki will talk to Interact leadership about involvement in the Hope for Hallie project.

Public Image: (Rosemary)

Nothing new to report.

Grants: (Jane)

We have 2 grant requests.

Lucas Elliott (Eagle Scout project) has submitted a grant request for \$400 to improve the recycling center. He would like to clean and repaint the sign. He also would like to put in some new plantings. This grant is approved, subject to answering a few questions about plantings and ongoing maintenance. All voted in favor.

Lisa O'Mahoney has requested \$1,000 to assist in payment for her upcoming trip to Ethiopia with Project Cure in December. Grant money would go directly to Project Cure.

All in favor with one abstention from Hillard.

Swarthmore Rotary Charitable Trust: (Jane)

There is approximately \$59,000 in the Rotary Trust. \$16,000 is approved for grants in 2025-26.

We have dropped college student grants from our website for now, as the funding from the Women's Club has been depleted.

Presidential Nomination: (Hilliard)

The Nomination Committee has recommended Earl Varney as President-Elect (PE), and he has agreed. He and Jane will talk soon.

Minutes prepared by AI and Club Secretary Charlie Pell.

**Next meeting:**

**Wednesday, September 24 at 5 p.m. via Zoom**