

What Happened at our Meeting on 8th October, 2003

Our last week speaker, Mr. Roger Nissim, very timely touched on How Planning and Land Policy could be used to enhance consideration, when the Society for the Protection of the Harbour is having its objection of the Victoria Harbour reclamation, a controversial subject.

In July 2003 Government published its review on nature conservation policy in a document entitled "Nature Outlook" with 4 chapters:

- 1. Introduction = setting the scene
- 2. Review of existing policy and measures
- 3. Improvement Proposals
- 4. Public support and consultation.

The annex sets out options considered impractical.

He continued to say that we have 23 country parks now, cover 41,582 hectares or 38% of Hong Kong plus 4 marine parks and I reserve have also been created.

Town Planning Zonings:

Sites of special scientific interest created another 6600 hectares or 5% more of our land mass is so zoned resulting in 43% of Hong Kong being protected.

Conflicts - Private Land

Agricultural use - misuse of pesticides, war games, village zoning. The problems are passive approach with no active management.

The significant sites are well known, for example, Tai Long Wan, Wu Kau Tang, Sha Lo Tung, Long Valley, Tai Ho Valley, etc.

The government proposes a scoring system to more objectively prioritize these sits with the following suggested criteria and weighting:

Habitat Criteria Weighting by Percentage

Naturalness 15 Habitat Diversity 15 Size 10 Non-recreatability 10 Degree of disturbance 10 Bio-diversity criteria Species diversity & richness 20 Species rarity/endemism 20

100

Government needs solutions that will not involve any additional expenditure but cannot be free! Options to consider accepting the principle of revenue foregone.

In-situ exchanges e.g., OU (CDWEA)

Non-in situ exchanges - only in exceptional cases

Letter C - for sites in fragmented ownership

Hong Kong Conservation Trust should be created and can be funded from conservation exchanges and be independent.

A vote of thank was given to Mr. Nissim by Rtn. Tommy Ling in the usual Rotary manner.

RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe highly stressed the value on family this year. He asks every Rotary club to establish a family of Rotary committee as part of the 2003-2004 Presidential Citation programme. The committee's purpose is to develop club projects and activities that support club members, their families and the extended family of Rotary. The following "Questions and Answers" will help us to understand the indepth of what is family of Rotary.

- Q. What does the family of Rotary concept mean to you?
- A Rotary is about more than just personal or professional advancement. At its best, a Rotary club encourages diversity while creating personal relationship similar to a functional family.
- Q. Why is it important to involve non-Rotarian family members in club activities?
- A Rotarians are involved in a great number of activities and scheduling conflicts require decisions on how to prioritize time. Family members who become involved in Rotary service and social activities will better understand why the club member makes time for Rotary even when it conflicts with other demands.
- Q. In general, what can Rotary clubs do to become more family friendly?
- A. The challenge is for the club to be sensitive to all of its constituencies: the Rotarians, the Rotarian's family, spouses of deceased Rotarians, and even former Rotarians. A club can create a supportive, beneficial synergy.
- Q. What are the duties and responsibilities of a family of Rotary committee?
- A. They audit how the dub relates to its members. Does the club stay in touch with the sick? Does it support members experiencing problems with their careers? How does the club respond to the Rotarians, or the family, in bereavement? Does it notice members who are becoming less involved? Do new members feel a part of the "family"? In short, how do Rotarians reach out to each other? The committee assists the board of directors and the dub's committees in implementing appropriate changes.
- Q. Rotary clubs exist in 166 countries. Are there cultural differences that must be considered?
- A Of course, Rotary has thrived in many cultures for nearly 100 years. It adapts to the host culture and moves ahead. Rotarians will adapt this concept in a manner consistent with their own cultures.
- Q. Do you see the family of Rotary concept functioning as a membership growth tool ? If so, how ?
- A It is not hard to walk away from a group in which you have no investment. It is very hard to leave family. People don't leave organization when they feel at home. This initiative highlights the need for that environment, which can have a serious impact on growth while reducing attrition.
- Q. Do you think family members are likely to become Rotarians once they are exposed to the family of Rotary?
- A As family members become involved, the values of the organization become self-evident. The addition of family members as active Rotarians will benefit all clubs and enhance diversity.

Special News

1) There is a special article about the Lui family's historic house in Sham Sui Po which is very interesting reading for our members. It is about the family of our PP Tim Lui. Please copy this URL and paste it on your browser to read it:

http://www.news.gov.hk/en/category/healthandcommunity/031003/features/html/031003en05005.htm

2) Our member Rtn Kenny Chan's horse "Supreme Star" came in a winner at Shatin on 8th October. Congratulation Kenny!

Joke & Cartoon

A man in a hot air balloon realized he was lost. He reduced altitude and spotted a woman below.

He descended a bit more and shouted, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The woman below replied, "You're in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground. You're between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude."

"You must be an engineer," said the balloonist.

"I am," replied the woman, "How did you know?"

"Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is, technically correct, but I've no idea what to make of your information, and the fact is I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you've delayed my trip."

The woman below responded, "You must be in Management."

"I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?"

"Well," said the woman, "you don't know where you are or where you're going. You have risen to where you are due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise which you've no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but now, somehow, it's my fault."



Photographs of our Meeting 8th October, 2003



Our guest speaker was Mr. Roger Nissim, Manager of Project Planning Dept of SHK Property Ltd. His topic was "How Planning and Land Policy Could be uses to Enhance Consideration."





(L to R) PDG Uncle Peter, our guest speaker Mr. Nissim (L to R) Hon. Sec Eddy, our former AG Bob Wilson &



Our birthday songs were lead by none other then PDG Y.K.singing to the two birthday boys Rtns Francis & Sam, looking on are PP Tim & Acting Pres. Rudy.



We had an auction on two items from our Sister Club of Makati North, one of which was won by PP John IV. who made a modest bid.



The other item was won by Hon Tres. Clark who bid a huge fortune for the Crystal plate for his new house. Anyway it will look great on your mantle place, Clark.!



(L to R) PP Andrew, Rtn Kenny, PP Tim, PP Stephen, PP Hubert and his guest Mr Gary Chow.



A happy table of Rotarians enjoying the meeting. (L to R) Hon Tres Clark, Rtns Heron, Laurence, Dr. Stephen, Francis & PDG Y.K.



Hon Tres Clark happily receiving contributions from Dir. Jason, Rtn Sam, Dr Tony, & PP

Desmond

(Hidden) but we still can see his money.



(L to R) Rtn Kishu, Dir. Jason, Rtns Sam, Dr. Tony & PP Desmond.



Group photo of our PDG Uncle Peter & Acting Pres Rudy with our guest speaker & AG Bob Wilson on 8th Oct., 2003

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