

# Vol.71 No.11

#### **Officers**

President Rico Fung Hon. Secretary PE Bonnie Yeung Hon. Treasurer PP Gilbert Fung

#### **Directors**

Club Administration Rtn Vagman Wai Fellowship Rtn Sharon Lam

International Service PP William Wong

Membership PP Leo Yu

Service Projects Rtn Eric Poon

Youth Service PP Bernard Lee

#### <u>Chairs</u>

Rotary Foundation PP Eddy Wong

Fellowship Rtn Kevin Leung Vocational and VVE Rtn Chris Wang P.P.E. PP Bernard Lee

Sergeant-at-Arms PE Bonnie Yeung PP William Wong

PP Council PP George Leung

Club Advisors PDG Y.K. Cheng IPDG Norman Lee

70th Anniversary Celebration Committee PDG Y.K. Cheng



## 6 December 2023

# **Today: Annual General Meeting**

Last Meeting: Updates on 70th Anniversary Celebration



## Our members present were:

President Rico Fung PDG Y.K. Cheng IPDG Norman Lee PP Hubert Chan PP Andrew Chen

- PP Desmond Cheung PP Stacy Ho PP Rudy Law PP George Leung PP Eddy Wong
- PP Andy Wong PP William Wong PP Nancy Yee PE Bonnie Yeung Rtn Lawrence Lui

President Rico Fung welcomed all of us for participating in the briefing and discussion on our upcoming 70th Anniversary Celebration. We all welcomed Rtn Lawrence Lui for his first Club meeting after induction.

We celebrated the birthday of PP Eddy Wong, and we gave our November birthday wishes to PP Tim Lui, PP Paul Chan, and Rtn Mofiz Chan.





President Rico gave District announcements, especially on RI President Gordon McInally's visit during the week. For Club announcements, President Rico reminded us about the upcoming AGM on 6 Dec 2023, which we would need a quorum of 17 members present. Second Club Assembly would be held on 20 December, 2023. After that, we would have guest speakers on Artificial Intelligence. Anita Lee, friend of our Four Clans keynote speaker Bonnie Chiu, would also be our guest speaker.

Virtual Vocational Exchange would start on 18 November 2023. President Rico called on members to join as observers. Hong Kong Childrity Association Go Chess Competition would be held on 19 November 2023.

PE Bonnie Yeung briefed us on the upcoming arrangements on our Christmas Party. PP David Lee had booked the pool-side area at Hong Kong Golf Club on 11 December, 2023. Although the pool would be covered during the winter, PP David had ordered a lamb on the spit, and it would be a cozy venue for bringing family and friends to our holiday season fellowship.



PDG YK Cheng proceeded with his report on behalf of the Organizing Committee on the upcoming 70th Anniversary Celebration:

- The venue at Ocean Park Marriott had been confirmed. It could hold up to 50-60 tables. The venue was not the most expensive. The OC had also been looking up staycation plans for our visiting sister clubs members. The ticket price for paying guests was suggested to be HK\$1,954, a tribute to the year we were chartered.
- Due to the manpower required, OC believed a production house should be hired for the celebration dinner. Four were contacted and 3 had replied. The event could be made more memorable if we could all sit down for the dinner and focus on keeping our hospitality to our sister Clubs and guests. A video had been planned to showcase our history in the past 70 years. Comparison among the quotes was in progress.
- The OC understood that it had been a while since our Club established the school for deaf, and our recent projects had been on a much smaller scale. Two signature projects had been identified, and a third one involving a landmark sculpture for invigorating the harbor front was being considered.

President Rico Fung and PP Rudy Law prepared a 'conservative' budget without including potential sponsors. President Rico presented the budget to our attending members. The following elements were considered:

- Cost per head and ticket sales with two proposed prices, with estimates on the number of HKIE members, friends and families, District officers and visiting Clubs.
- Production house costs inclusive of entertainment, backdrop and video production.



- Welcome dinner and hospitality for our visiting sister club members.
- MTRC station exhibition with the Junioract club of C.C.C. Kei Wan Primary School (Aldrich Bay), sponsorship on mobile medical van at 老友所醫基金, and Service project for 70 elderly homes, a tribute to our 70-year history.
- Cost of the optional, longer lasting landmark sculpture in harbour front.

PDG YK noted that we would need to use our cash reserves. The Board would make a decision based on the best balance between costs and what they believe would cost to create the desired positive image for our Club.

PP Nancy shared information on the proposed sculpture. The OC wanted to create something which would enhance public image. We had gone through a few proposals, and had narrowed them down to one by Victor Wong, an internationally recognized tech artist. Victor had created options so the sculpture would align with our Club image and a sustainable, environmental theme. The OC felt that the Government officials we met were impressed.

Currently the proposal involved a steel structure, with wood as one of the options. It would also involve Augmented Reality and Artificial Intelligence elements, adapting to seasonal themes. Options include furniture elements around the sculpture so the public could relax and rest by the sculpture.

OC Chair PDG YK turned to our members for comments and called on our members to assist in making our 70th Anniversary Celebration event more successful and more budget friendly by inviting more people to attend as paying guests. PP George Leung, PP Hubert Chan, PP Andrew Chen, PP Rudy Law, PP Andy Wong, PP Nancy Yee, PP William Wong proceeded with comments. The key points were summarized as follows:

- We might need to provide other pre-function events, such as green fees for golf, and transportation for those who wish to stay elsewhere.
- We still have 5-6 months to gain a better indication on member and guest commitments. The board should come to a consensus on how much on the cash reserve we should dig in and plan according to the budget. We also need to consider members' feelings when using our cash reserve. Our Past

Presidents expressed different opinions about spending our cash reserves on a one-time event or on a landmark sculpture as opposed to actual service projects, but they respect our Board's decision. They also indicated fundraising among our Past Presidents could be plausible.

- Ticket sales could be over-estimated. It would be prudent to ask our members in advance. IPDG Norman Lee could also give a better indication on the intents from District Officers and other Clubs.
- The proposed ticket price of \$1,954 HKD was reasonable, charging more might cause less motivation to join. Cash flow could be more important than budget, as cash from ticket sales might not come in until April.
- We should make sure that the public associates the sculpture more with our Club rather the designer. Government officials had indicated their support for recognizing our Club, and Victor Wong as a prominent artist had also voiced his intention to assist with PR for our Club. A prominent QR code can assist with the association, and Augmented Reality technology with seasonal themes can also motivate use of the QR code, which will promote awareness of our Club.
- Daughter clubs could be considered for co-sponsor if we should go for the sculpture. Rotary landmarks have impact and meaning and could be desirable.

PDG YK gave summary of the discussion. We had consensus on the benefits on Public Image for a major project from our Club. Our Club historically had had around 90 members and therefore a bigger pool from club dues alone, so we had not been doing fundraising like some other Clubs. We have fewer members now with no recent projects of big impact. The proposal from the OC takes into consideration that we do have a need to set a benchmark as a mother club of many in this special year.

# Virtual Vocational Exchange 2023

The Virtual Vocational Exchange program between District 9213 and District 3450 officially started on 17 November, 2023. We are honored to have RI President Gordon McInally present at the Rotary Information Center for his opening speech.

The organizing team prepared well in advance, and the event was well received.



# Happy Birthday to our Splendid December Birthday Members

2nd - PP Desmond Cheung, 8th - Rtn Bonnie Yeung, 12th - PP Hubert Chan,
16th - Rtn Benson Ng, 18th - Rtn Andrew Lai, 20th - PP Henry Chan,
Rtn Ping Kwan, 26th - PP Leo Yu, 31st - Rtn Lawrence Lui

We adopted the webinar mode this year, with panelists, attendees and breakout rooms to facilitate feedback and discussion.

A equally well received Session 2 was conducted on 25 November, 2023.



Club Activities

President Rico Fung, PP William Wong and spouse Fanny 18 November, 2023 attended the District End Polio Walk. The following day, President Rico Fung, PP Stacy Ho, PP William Wong and spouse Fanny, Rtn Kevin Wong and spouse Catherine, PP David Lee and spouse Amy served at the HKCRA Go Chess Competition, where President Rico

was the keynote speaker. A video for the event had also been submitted for the District People of Action contest.



Club postal address Meeting Venue Meeting Schedules Website

: P.O.Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong : Regal HK Hotel, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

- : Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 12:30 pm
- : http://hkie.rotary3450.org/



