**READING LIEDERKRANZ**

MINUTES FROM THE March 22, 2024 BOARD MEETING

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**  Jon Linton, Joe Pettyjohn, Aaron Sadowski, Mike Miller, and Suzanne Miller

*Excused: Len Weckel*

**TRUSTEES IN ATTENDANCE:**  Rosie Borst, Scott Thomas, Zach Rinker, Joel Strohecker and Mike Borst

**SECTION LEADERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Joan Yoder and Dieter Wolter

 *Excused: Judi Eshelman, Bryn Weckel, and Len Weckel*

**COORDINATORS IN ATTENDANCE**: Cherylene Shollenberger and Heather Allmendinger

*Excused: Gayle Schneider, Sue Shuler, and Bryn Weckel*

**COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE:** Karl Allmendinger

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE**: Mike Stuber Joe Marnell, JoAnn Marnell, Brigitte Yeager, John Lesher,

and Suzie Allmendinger

**CALL TO ORDER**: President Jon Linton called the board meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE:** All rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and observe a moment of silence for Club members who recently passed or are suffering with illness. We remember Dorothy Updegrove on her recent passing.

**REPORTS:**

* **Secretary’s Report – Suzanne Miller**
	+ Copies of the February minutes were provided. Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes stand approved as presented*.*
* **Financial Secretary’s/Membership Report – Michael Miller**
	+ March new members: 39 Average age of new members is 52
	+ There are 2,017 members that renewed for 2024.
	+ There are 652 members that have yet to renew. A final reminder will be sent prior to the March 31 deadline
	+ Recent control of the door access system was changed from computer based to cloud based.  This will allow the database to be accessed remotely rather than exclusively from a computer at the club. The security company is still working with "bugs" caused by the transition. .
	+ Monthly/Annual membership comparison, new/renewal of membership comparison were also included with the email sent to board members prior to the meeting
	+ *Motion by Joe Marnell, second by Heather Allmendinger, to accept the report. Motion carried.*
		- * **Germania – Len Weckel**
	+ The new season begins in April, with a pre-season meeting scheduled earlier this week
	+ In preparation for their 100th Anniversary in 2026, photos and memorabilia are being gathered for display
	+ A Celebration is also being planned as Germania
* **Small Game of Chance –** Seeing steady usage of the machine
* **Eagle Mountain Home –** Working with Corrie Crupi who is compiling information for a book about EMH
* **Newsletter –** Information for April issue is due to Bryn before Wednesday, March 27
	+ - * **Travel – Cherylene Shollenberger**
	+ Alaska: 57 travelers are participating with the June 25 to July 5, 2024 trip.
	+ Reutlingen, Germany: Trip scheduled from July 9-18, 2025 where home base is Reutlingen with day trips to surrounding cities with the highlight being participation with Reutlingen Schwörtag Festival, Mayor’s Swearing in ceremony. Secondary optional trip of a Rhine River Cruise from July 19-26 has been added to this experience.
	+ Biltmore/Ashville: Domestic bus trip for December 8 – 12, 2024 details will be available later this month
	+ Considering a domestic bus trip in late 2025
	+ Reading High School/Reutlingen Exchange program:
		- Reutlingen students will visit Reading in the spring of ‘24 for two weeks.
		- All are invited to visit the RLK on April 11, when approx. 20 Reutlingen students, 20 RHS students and 4 teachers, plus the host families and select Reading officials from the Reading/Reutlingen Friendship Team led by former mayor Tom McMahon will visit the RLK and participate in an authentic German meal.
* **Treasurer – Aaron Sadowski**
	+ Formal financial report was distributed to those in attendance
	+ As a result of the recent property survey, RLK owned property formerly recorded as multiple parcels was merged into one large property
	+ *Motion by Rosie Borst, second by Zach Rinker, to accept the Treasurer’s report. Motion carried.*
* **Projects**
	+ Grove water/gas lines, paving, etc.
		- Jud Firestone is serving as general contractor for the project.
		- A permit was obtained since we were doing more excavation than originally expected.
		- Contingency funds covered the following: removal of several trees when tree roots were discovered throughout the excavation area, and the addition of a new concrete grease trap
		- Weather permitting, work will begin next week. Paving cannot be scheduled until last minute.
	+ Pavilion Dance Floor
		- Samples of flooring are being obtained. Individuals are meeting to plan schedule in order to have work completed by GTV 75th Anniversary celebration on June 22.
	+ Landscaping
		- RLK had contracted with Mark Hinkle Landscaping for the 2024 landscaping season offering 8 applications.
		- Trustees received a bid from another company offering a reduced rate for less applications.
		- Due to prepayment sent to Hinkle Landscaping, RLK will honor the 2024 contract, but bid lawncare for the 2025 growing season.
	+ Personnel update
		- On June 3, Mike Borst will step into the General Manager position on a temporary basis with duties added gradually. If after a six-month probation period, all parties involved are satisfied, Mike Borst will be offered the position permanently.
		- A GM job description is being formulated as tasks are added, modified or eliminated.
		- On June 3, kitchen trustee position held by Borst will temporarily pass to Scott Thomas who will maintain his position and vote as house trustee. At the same time Zach Rinker will assume some duties currently managed by Scott Thomas as house trustee. Mike Borst will relinquish trustee vote, but will offer input as the GM.
		- RLK is looking to hire two new food runners, and recently hired a new dishwasher
	+ Entrance Sign – When weather remains warm enough to pour concrete, pilings will be poured and the sign placed.
		- * **Singers – Joan Yoder**
	+ Their annual spring concert will be held on April 21 with buffet and dancing afterwards.
		- * **GTV – Dieter Wolter**
	+ 75th Anniversary celebration on June 22 has been advertised regionally, and nationally.
	+ Gaufest 2027: GTV submitting a bid to host the event in the Lancaster area with several events being held at RLK
	+ Moving forward, GTV will be practicing on the dance floor every Friday evening
	+ Clambake: reserve early for 2024. Looking to potentially rebrand for 2025
	+ FrontierFeast was cancelled due to low RSVP and too many other events around area on same date.
* **German American Day – August 17, 2024** Scheduled to be held at RLK this summer.
* **Website, Social Media, Volunteering**
	+ Joel Strohecker took lead on spearheading marketing for the RLK. He is assisted by Brooke Rinker and others
	+ Thanks to Joel, Brooke, and Heather Allmendinger (volunteer coordinator) last 3 events sold out & well-staffed.
	+ The trio is looking into developing a volunteer database so don’t overwork a handful of folks
* **Emails created**
	+ Info@ readingliederkranz.com is master account and copied on all emails.
	+ Grounds@... Marketing@… Rentals@... Membership@... Oktoberfest@... Christkindlmarkt@...
* **Ladies Auxiliary** - Easter Egg hunt is scheduled Saturday 3/30/2024. 38 children have already reserved spaces.
* **Car Show – August 18** Scheduled to be held on same day at Duryea Hill Climb
* **Rentals** - Help needed at August 24 Regional Romanian Festival inviting NY/PA/NJ/MD, etc.
* **Grove Clean up – April 6, 2024**
	+ Several youth groups mentioned joining the RLK volunteers in morning. Afternoon reserved for project work
* **Donation request**
	+ Reading-Reutlingen Student Exchange is requesting funds to off-set transportation expenses
	+ Examples: airport shuttles, trips to Harrisburg, Hershey, Washington DC, Philadelphia, New York, etc.
	+ *Motion by Zach Rinker, second by Cherylene Shollenberger, to donate $3,000 to the Reading-Reutlingen German exchange program planned for April 2024. Motion carried.*
	+ FYI Exeter school district who solicited RLK funds last year plan to visit Germany in 2025.

*Motion by Zach Rinker to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Suzanne M. Miller*