



MINUTES
of the
SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2021
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

GENERAL OFFICERS

2021-22

PRESIDENT

Shekhar Mehta

Kolkata, West Bengal, India
(Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar)

VICE PRESIDENT

Valarie K. Wafer

Thornbury, ON, Canada
(Rotary Club of Collingwood-South Georgian Bay)

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Jennifer E. Jones

LaSalle, ON, Canada
(Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland)

TREASURER

Virpi Honkala

Raahe, Finland
(Rotary Club of Raahe)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Peter R. Kyle

West River, MD, USA
(Rotary Club of Capitol Hill [Washington, DC])

GENERAL SECRETARY

John Hewko

Evanston, IL, USA
(Rotary Club of Kyiv, Ukraine)

OTHER DIRECTORS

Jessie Harman

Ballarat, Victoria, Australia
(Rotary Club of Wendouree Breakfast)

Susan C. Howe

Friendswood, TX, USA
(Rotary Club of Space Center [Houston])

Won-Pyo Kim

Gyeongju-si Gyeongsangbuk-do, Korea
(Rotary Club of Gyeongju South)

Urs Klemm

Aarau, Switzerland
(Rotary Club of Aarau)

Mahesh Kotbagi

Pune, India
(Rotary Club of Pune Sports City)

Aikaterini Kotsali-Papadimitriou

Pendeli, Greece
(Rotary Club of Pendeli)

Roger Lhors

Pont-Audemer, France
(Rotary Club of Pont-Audemer, France)

Chi-Tien Liu

Taoyuan, Taiwan
(Rotary Club of Yangmei)

Vicki Puliz

Reno, NV, USA
(Rotary Club of Sparks)

Nicki Scott

Cheltenham Gloucestershire, England
(Rotary Club of North Cotswolds)

Julio César A. Silva-Santisteban

San Isidro, Peru
(Rotary Club of El Rímac)

Katsuhiko Tatsuno

Minato-ku, Japan
(Rotary Club of Tokyo-West)

Elizabeth Usovicz

Westwood, KS, USA
(Rotary Club of Kansas City-Plaza)

Ananthanarayanan S. Venkatesh

Chennai, India
(Rotary Club of Chennai Mambalam)

MINUTES

of the

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2021 MEETINGS

Rotary International Board of Directors

The Rotary International Board of Directors met virtually on 24 September and 25 October 2021.

Present at these meetings were: President Shekhar Mehta, President-elect Jennifer Jones, Vice President Valarie Wafer, Treasurer Virpi Honkala, Executive Committee Chair Peter Kyle, other directors, — Jessie Harman, Susan Howe, Won-Pyo Kim, Urs Klemm, Mahesh Kotbagi, Aikaterini Kotsali-Papadimitriou, Roger Lhors, Shi-Tien Liu, Vicki Puliz, Nicki Scott, Julio César A. Silva-Santisteban, Katsuhiko Tatsuno, Elizabeth Usovich, Ananthanarayanan S. Venkatesh, and General Secretary John Hewko. Trustee Dean Rohrs attended as Trustee liaison to the Board.

At the president's invitation, also attending were Directors-elect Jeremy Hurst, Drew Kessler, Muhammad Faiz Kidwai, Lena Mjerskaug, Patricia Merryweather-Arges, Patrick Chisanga, and Yoshio Sato. Director-elect Ezio Lanteri was unable to attend these meetings.

Andrew McDonald served as secretary of the meeting with assistance from Matt Hohmann. Other staff present were David Alexander, Jim Barnes, Julie Burke, Paul Haisman, Brian King, Mark Lowry, David Peterson, Steve Routburg, Eric Schmelling, Tom Thorfinnson, and Nora Zei. Nobuko Andrews, Alain Drouot, Marc Prevot, and Eiko Terao served as staff interpreters.

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September Meeting

At this meeting, the Board took one decision regarding its planned in-person meeting in November, and discussed certain restrictions in its COVID-19 Travel Policy in light of the current state of the pandemic.

22. Partners' Travel to November Board Meeting

Statement: In decision 17, August 2021, the Board approved a one-time policy exception to fund partner travel to the October Board meeting and requested the general secretary to develop a partner program accordingly. (To align with announced changes to US travel restrictions, President Mehta later changed the meeting date to November). Noting the continued uncertainty and associated challenges brought by the pandemic, the Board discussed rescinding RI funding of partner travel

to the meeting, while still welcoming them at no cost to Rotary.

***DECISION:* The Board**

1. agrees to invite directors' partners to attend the 15–17 November 2021 Board meeting in Evanston, Illinois, USA, at no cost to RI;
2. rescinds its decision 17, August 2021 accordingly.

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October Meeting

At this meeting, the Board took one decision regarding the 2022 International Assembly and reviewed four discussion topics. Director Puliz led the Board through a membership overview, highlighting how directors were promoting and incorporating President Mehta's "Each One Bring One" membership strategy into their respective regions and further discussed best practices for working with Rotary coordinators and employing other strategies for membership growth. Director Kyle presented to the Board on enhancing Rotary's global stature by 1) seeking to identify Rotary members who would serve as high profile global thought leaders; 2) engaging in strategic regional events with local civic and business leaders, media, universities, and foundations; and 3) expanding Rotary's outreach to the international community through the Rotary Representative network. Director Venkatesh presented to the Board on ideas for assessing the true value of Rotary International by analyzing the input, output, and impact of Rotary members' projects worldwide; and Director Usovich reported to the Board on the Empowering Girls Initiative, including the status of Empowering Girls projects and resources, youth protection guidelines, how to support this campaign in Rotary Showcase, and the status of Empowering Girls ambassador activities.

23. 2022 International Assembly Safety

Statement: Noting that many aspects of the 2022 International Assembly have been uncertain or changing due to COVID-19 pandemic, President-elect Jones

requested the Board to consider several IA-related matters, including change the virtual dates to not conflict with Lunar New Year celebrations in Asia, PCR COVID-19 test requirements for participants, IA travel arrangement guidelines, and measures to limit the number of people in attendance to the extent possible.

DECISION: The Board

1. amends its decision 14, August 2021, by changing the dates of the virtual component of the 2022 International Assembly to 25 January through 15 February 2022;
2. agrees that all participants at the in-person event shall provide a negative PCR test result from not more than 72 hours before arrival;
3. confirms that no travel arrangements for the 2022 International Assembly will be authorized that include pre-event travel and further agrees that
 - a. travel arrangements and hotel accommodations shall be limited to the official participant and partner;
 - b. no additional hotel rooms will be available for non-IA participants;
 - c. no local purchase will be permitted;
 - d. post-event travel by the participants will be permitted at their own expense subject to the travel policy;
4. agrees to a one-time exception to Rotary Code of Policies section 58.070.5. regarding the cost of sergeants-at-arms at the International Assembly and increases the sergeant-at-arms teams by up to two couples or four individuals;
5. recognizes the need to limit the participation at the in-person International Assembly to the core participants and operations team required to maximize the effectiveness of safety protocols, and agrees, as a one-time exception to Rotary Code of Policies section 58.070.1. regarding official participants at the International Assembly, that the following official participants shall only be allowed to register for the virtual 2022 Assembly:
 - a) International PolioPlus Committee chair
 - b) Chairs of committees of Rotary International and its Foundation and partners
 - c) Past general secretaries and partners

- d) Past Trustee chair who has not served as an RI president and partner
- e) Regional magazine editors.

2021–22 Budget Review

- Board-approved budget, 2021–22 (in US dollars)

Revenues:	116,063,000
Expenses:	120,104,000
Funding from RI reserve:	3,047,000
Convention reserves:	1,600,000

**Surplus Approved Funding
Over Expenses: US\$606,000**

- Decisions taken at this meeting impacting current year:

<u>Revenue:</u>	<u>2021–23</u>
n/a	-

<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>2021–22</u>
n/a	-

**Total financial impact in
current year: \$ -**

- Decisions taken at this meeting impacting future years:

<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>2022–23</u>	<u>2023–24</u>	<u>2024–25</u>
	-	-	-

Adjournment

The foregoing is a true record of the proceedings at the September and October 2021 Rotary International Board of Directors meetings.

Shekhar Mehta
President, RI

Andrew McDonald
Secretary of the Meeting

ATTEST:

John Hewko
General Secretary, RI