

## **GKCPTP Annual Meeting Minutes**

April 18, 2021 – 2pm

Meeting conducted via Zoom

### **ATTENDING: GKCPTP Board Members**

Zahid Awan, Pat Burnett, Don Fuson, Karen Haber, Larry Hedlund, Nancy Quitmeier, Jerry Raggett, Stan Shipman, Tim Urban, Sharon Valasek, Jane Kohl Waggoner, Marti Wilson

### **PARTIAL LIST OF GKCPTP MEMBERS ATTENDING:**

Zahid and Carrie Awan	John Hickman	Patricia Burnett
Anita Lenoir	John Hotek	Randy Pace
Bill and Judy Robinett	Karen Haber	Sean Madsen
Bob	Kathy Laffoon	Sharon and Bob
Christine	Larry Dolci	Johnson
Eleanor and Jerry	Larry Gordon	Sharon Valasek
Raggett	Larry Hedlund	Shea Geist
Eric Schoenberg	Linda and Don Fuson	Stan and Linda Shipman
Fred Vanecek	Marti and James Wilson	Steve and Henna Fuller
Irina Kobzeva Pavlovic	Maxine Hunter	Tim Urban
Jane Kohl	Michael and Megan	Wasim and Andrea
Jerry Magnuson	Wizniak	Kahn
Joan Patterman Barrett	Nancy Quitmeier	

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Meeting was called to order 2:08 pm by Zahid Awan.

President Zahid's welcome and with no predictions for the next Annual Meeting but we will hope for the best. Kansas weather will keep us flexible. Zahid has just returned from Pakistan, for he has seen a real nightmare of the pandemic, having lost family members, seeing children under 10 as victims, 500K doses for vaccines for a population of over 230M people. Just be careful and protect yourself and your family.

Zahid does not want anything to happen to anyone of us. The objective is "Peace" to be attained by becoming stronger ambassadors, but still being cautious with social distancing. During the 2020-2021 year, we continue to get excellent support from the military and specific IMSD staff for the GKCPTP programs.

### **GKCPTP PROGRAMS**

Nancy Quitmeier summarized the various activities throughout the year, starting in Nov 2020 with the arrival of David Bornn.

Circle of Knowledge events (Jan 2021 Bangladesh, Feb 2021 Poland, March 2021 Lebanon).

## **ANNUAL Meeting Minutes from 2020**

Minutes from April 2020 are available on the GKCPTP.org web site, covering the quick review of minutes, finance, and programs at that time. Motion to approve these previous minutes (Pat Burnett, Jerry Magnuson) – passed.

## **Annual Financial Report**

Marti Wilson prepared a simple comparison of 2019 and 2020 income and expenses. Motion to receive the Financial Report (Randy Pace, Jane Kohl) – passed.

## **Review of By-Law Changes**

Larry Hedlund reviewed the major types of changes (including typos, spelling consistency, capitalization, outline formatting consistency, updated to allow digital records). Also virtual meetings would be allowed by the Board and GKCPTP Committees.

Terminology changed within the document to change the committee requirements to just give reports to the Board, but not keeping formal minutes of the committee.

Changes to the bylaws are posted on the GKCPTP.org web site (strikeouts, red-lining). Contact Larry with any questions.

Motion to accept the suggested changes and revisions to the GKCPTP By-Laws (Tim Urban, Randy Pace) – passed.

## **Military Sponsorship Committee**

Sharon Valasek summarized the many (many) changes during the 2020-2021 class due to Covid. Changes to the schedules for activities will be posted, and virtual links will be published for the end-of-year events.

2021-2022 class will bring many more officers (47 in 2021) but now looking about 95-110 for the incoming officers. Members have been polled to get interests and the fort will continue to encourage that sponsors will be “all in” for the year. Any changes in active sponsorship is a poor reflection so be realistic for your own comfort levels during the final assignments by country. Final juggling of country assignments is dependent upon the final list of officers/countries that actually come, plus mashing the assignments by the Military Sponsorship committee.

Military Sponsorship Handbooks are available, especially for new sponsors, but are also available for any sponsor.

June 10, 2021 (Thursday – via zoom) will be the 2021-2022 Sponsorship briefing.

Expected arrivals will be by June 28, 2021, and immediately go into a 14-day quarantine, which will allow for a virtual meeting (zoom, email, text, phone call) during the quarantine time. NO Airport pickups will be needed by sponsors.

If the schedule for the Icebreakers (4 of them) for the in-person event.

Encouraging contacts from mid-July thru mid-August is open, which is ahead of the Aug 23, 2021 Flag Ceremony, which is the start of the officer classwork.

Expect an “early” LAC renewal (during December) to be processed by Jan 2022, with a consistent Feb 28 expiration of any given future year.

## **GKCPTP MEMBERSHIP**

Karen Haber reported that Membership was 137 member units on 12/31/2020 (family units) and 113 now renewed and current. There are a few reminders already sent to members to remember their 2021 dues.

## **2021-2022 GKCTP ELECTIONS**

Karen received the email and USPS returns on voting for the 2021-2022 GKCTP Board.

Motion to approve (Jerry Raggett, Randy Pace) the 2021 slate for the GKCTP Board – passed.

## **SPONSORS to share their 2020-2021 Sponsorship Experiences**

Steve and Henna Fuller – Pakistan – The Fullers are previous sponsors, so they knew to get started very early, even during Covid; first visit just to visit on the base, and then a house visit; wife and kids were initially shy; Hannah was able to bring the wife down for Yoga, and meeting additional American friends. Officer was very open to visiting museums, book clubs, etc.

Bajram and Nihada Radoncic - Bosnia and Herzegovinian – new sponsors – not available

Wasim and Andrea Kahn – Kenya – Wasim is also from Kenya, so hosting the officer and his family, and watching them go through the cultural differences (e.g. visiting Sam’s Club) was almost like reliving his own experience. The COLD of winter was experienced as “four seasons in one day.” Shopped the African stores, learning to drive on the “correct” side of the road, experiencing the other adaptive issues that America offers. Saw through the eyes of the officers about the “anger” of Americans during

Black Lives Matter events. Officer has really been into politics as discussions (NOT arguments) but just trying to understand the differences.

### **SEAN MADSEN – IMSD for David Bornn**

Sean was a late minute replacement and repeated some of the information that Sharon had reported. More information on the slides from David Bornn, including lots of tentative dates.

Sean was very appreciative of the flexibility and continuing sponsorship by GKCTP during 2020.

### **Short Intros from new Board Members**

Irina, Michael, Candice, and Sharon

And thanks to Marti Wilson for her Treasurer service.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Zahid thanked the members for the year ahead, to find additional program for engaging all the members via the program from GKCTP.

Welcome the new Circle of Knowledge programs that will be set up, and especially be active in welcoming your assigned officer to make this “the best year of their lives.”

Adjourned at 3:28pm