

Rotary Club of New Jersey
March 28, 2024

Present: David Still, President
Michael Van Stine, Vice-President
Manuel Nunez, Treasurer
Dan Tangi
Armand Bucci
Kathleen Van Stine
Shy Myers
Chris Davidson
Rhonda Cohen (guest speaker, owner of RuCraft Designs LLC)

Meeting called to order at 7:08, Dave then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Remarks- Pres Dave welcomed everyone, announced the meeting agenda and then handed it off to VP Michael to give his report.

VP Michael asked if we could hold off approving the minutes from last meeting as there were some discrepancies. He told Manuel they would chat offline to correct those. VP Michael stated he is still working on a date for the greenhouse project, as well as a date for the next campus Rotaract meeting. He also mentioned Ian was awarded a CPAC grant, and he is working with Dr. Santiago's Leap Academy on getting students into Rotaract, Mini grants to help pay for RYLA and Torch academy scholarships. Mike mentioned that rutgersrotaract.org is our domain, and the rotary fund website will link to the foundation, and then explained the connection between the Rotary club and the foundation to Rhonda.

Manuel then gave the financial report. All rotary international and district dues have been paid. There is now \$254.37 left in the account. We will be sponsoring a student to go to RYLA, and Dave and Manuel are still working on collecting past dues and getting everyone current. VP Mike jumped in and mentioned the upcoming Gift of Life Dinner, and that tickets were \$60 and since we wouldn't have many attend, he would like to donate \$100, which we motioned to approve. Dave then motioned to approve the financial report.

Kathleen Van Stine then gave the Foundation report, many events coming up:
April 11th- CCVA Medal Ceremony, Michael will be accepting the award for his dad, who will be honored.

May 9th- We celebrate our Veterans Luncheon at the Rouh Center

June 8th- Beef and Beer fundraiser

September 12th- 3rd Annual Honor our Heroes Gala

Manuel jumped in and mentioned we will have a guest speaker, Tailor Helman, at our next Rotary Meeting on 4/11

Pres Dave then introduced our guest speaker, Rhonda Cohen, and had all the members go around and briefly introduce themselves.

Rhonda then talked about her life story, and how she came to be a business owner and start her company, RuCraft Designs LLC. She creates gift baskets for individuals and corporations, centered around conscientious individuals and companies seeking sustainable, kosher, and healthy food products paired with coordinating accessories. She mentioned how she can help with fundraisers by creating a basket that can be raffled off, and how she loves to help veterans and those suffering from mental illness. Rhonda mentioned how she has dealt with tragedy and hardship in her life, and she now lives each day to the fullest, focusing on positivity, living life and being happy. Michael and Dave mentioned they would love for Rhonda to consider joining Rotary!

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm