

Rotary District 7505 e-Club

October 14, 2021

### Minutes

Present:

- Michael Van Stine-President
- Manuel Nunez-Treasurer
- David Winter-Secretary
- Marissa Betancourt
- Dan Tangi
- Emilio Campelo
- Justin Green
- Dave Still
- Jimmy Simmermon

Pres V started the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves as we had some members who had not met one another yet. He said he wanted also to give DA Melanie some more time to join the meeting.

Emilio Campelo said he has been retired for 5 years and is now an adjunct professor at Kean University. He was an International Security Consultant in reference to cargo and that he started out in IT. He said he always wanted to teach and that he is currently an instructor for Rotary International in the IT field.

Pres V asked Emilio if he had any thoughts on the backup of container ships. Emilio said the problem is a shortage of truck drivers to move the containers.

Marissa Betancourt stated that she has a background in IT but that she now operates a Home Care Company. Marissa also has an academy that trains people to be health care workers. She was a member of the Mullica Hill Rotary Club and enjoys e-Club. Marissa is also the secretary of the Spectra Care Foundation.

Dan Tangi said he is new to Rotary and is associated with Univest Bank. He is passionate about his work with the Foundation and that he is pleased to be working with such a great group of people. Dan is an advocate for having seniors stay in their homes.

Dave Still stated that he works with businesses to help them stay in business by reducing expenses. He is a member of the Spectra Care Foundation and enjoyed working on the golf tournament. Dave said that his dad is a retired Air Force veteran and helping veterans is one of his main goals.

Pres V asked if there were any plans for solar panels. Dave said they are investigating solar panels. Pres V said the Veterans Center is always looking into ways to reduce electrical costs.

Dave Winter said that he is a retired teacher and School Business Administrator. He has worked with RYLA North for more than 20 years and that he was passionate about providing leadership training for high school students. Pres V said Dave has supported RYLA with considerable personal funds.

Jimmy Simmermon said he was in the military for 15 years and spent two tours in Iraq in 2008 and 2009 and in 2019 he was stationed in Qatar where he started a program where personnel went off base and helped animals. He currently works for a utility company. Pres V said that Jimmy was the backbone of an animal rescue program. Jimmy is also in charge of the PETS for VETS program at the Veterans Center. The program specializes in the adoption of animals with disabilities.

Justin Green is an artist and business owner who provides a host of services including training for adults and children. Justin said he is currently in business school. At the end of October, he will celebrate one year with Spectra Care. He assists with multi-media and marketing. Pres V said that Justin was our resident photographer who works closely with Manny and that he is the lead instructor for art therapy.

Manuel Nunez said he has worked in IT for many years including 35 to 40 facilities in Pennsylvania. Manny is directly responsible for computer support at Spectra Care including the website. He said he met Pres V in the '80s. Manny set up all the computers at the Veterans Center. He is also the club Treasurer. Pres V said that Manny is great at solving computer issues including application software.

Pres V said that he worked in the public sector in the '70s and '80s and was involved in public sector job training in Philadelphia; then in senior management positions with multiple private sector companies in eldercare, both local and national, and then as a consultant to the national healthcare association as well as a number of state associations. In total, he worked in 26 states on eldercare workforce development projects. He is now working with Rutgers Law School on a new national community apprenticeship program in eldercare. Pres V is also a Ph.D. candidate and an officer of the university in its Senate.

After introductions, Pres V said he had a meeting with the new Chancellor of Rutgers Camden, and that he is on board with suggested programs for students. He was a Rotary member when he worked at Purdue University. He might join our club in time. He also said he would like to help us with Rutgers Global, with a coordinated international grant application to include Rotaract at the other Rutgers campuses and that he hopes that students can participate in International Exchange.

Pres V advised that a Certificate of Occupancy had been issued for Unit A of the Veterans Center and people continue to work on some minor remaining issues on Unit B and Unit E. A required environmental study and other permits are on the horizon. Operational procedures are being established by a group of veterans. Also, one long-time Borough Councilman made a cash donation to the Center.

Pres V said that ticket sales are going well, and he thanked all members for their efforts.

Pres V said it was unfortunate that AG Melanie did not join the meeting since she is passionate about Rotary and is committed to supporting the club's efforts.

Pres V said he is waiting to hear from RI regarding the name change and that we have about ten more new members who will be joining when the change is complete.

Pres V reminded all that someone must step up to be president next year and that the DG will join the meeting on December 9. Marissa suggested that Pres V provide an outline of the responsibilities of the president for all to review.

Pres V again reminded that the RI convention is in Houston and that AA has cheap fares from Philadelphia.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 P.M.