

Rotary District 7505 e-Club

December 9, 2021

### Minutes

Present:

Michael Van Stine-President  
Manuel Nunez-Treasurer  
David Winter-Secretary  
District Governor Chuck Watson  
Justin Green  
Timothy Robinson  
Dan Tangi  
Marissa Betancourt  
Reverend William Hamilton  
Kathleen Van Stine-guest  
James Young  
Jimmy Simmermon

Pres V welcomed everyone making a special introduction to our DG Chuck Watson. Pres. V. explained that we would keep the business discussion to a minimum to afford DG Chuck maximum time to speak and inform us of evolving district plans.

Pres V commended members for a great job on the sale of raffle tickets. Special thanks to Kathleen and Marissa for selling 110 and Manny for selling 75. The club will receive \$1092.50 for the efforts of all members. This amount exceeds the entire club budget from last year.

Pres V said he is still waiting to disburse \$300 to a Rotary Club in Haiti but the unrest in the country is a problem.

e-Club will have a strong balance to complete projects in the community.

Manny moved and Mike seconded the nomination of Amy Murray-Hyde as President Elect. Motion approved.

Pres V then said it was a real honor to introduce District Governor Chuck who has an extensive bio which includes:

Participation in two foundations involved in consulting work

Making two presentations on financial literacy and credit card debt

Participating in the job search organization Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Proud father of two married daughters

A resident of Red Bank and a long term member of a great club there that has produced many DG's

Paul Harris Fellow

Recipient of the Skidmore Award

Graduate of Indiana University

DG Chuck started by commending Manuel Nunez on being recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow for his contribution to Rotary and his community. It is traditional that the highest-ranking Rotarian present make the award and he was most proud to be able to welcome Manny to this high honor. Pres V. emphasized that Manny's award was subsidized by a donor who wished to be anonymous, but he wanted to recognize his hard work for a long time on behalf of the club.

DG Chuck advised that he is the 8<sup>th</sup> DG from the Red Bank Club. DG Chuck updated his bio to include being retired. He said it was a two-and-a-half-year process to become DG. He said he was proud of starting new ideas and especially assisting clubs at this difficult time of pandemic impacts in our communities.

Pres V said that the club takes advantage of technology whenever possible especially when corresponding with other clubs. He pointed out the partnership with the Indian Rocks Club which is in Florida.

DG Chuck said one of the best ways to recover from the pandemic is to a needs assessment of the community. In addition, DG Chuck recommended using other sources such as Lions Clubs or Kiwanis Clubs to accomplish common goals. He suggested maybe trying to make the e-club be the "go-to" organization. DG Chuck recommends updating the website weekly especially including photos. For example, showing Manny receiving his Paul Harris Fellow Award. Pres V. said he would work to make that more of a priority for 2022.

DG Chuck reminded all those new members are the lifeblood of any organization. He said people are now looking for activities to get involved with. DG Chuck said it is sad to see how many restaurants and businesses have closed.

DG Chuck advised that his theme for this year is "*Serve to Change Lives*". He stressed his theme concept of "*Rise, Pause, and Pull*", which he chose as his district theme for the year. After climbing for up to 80 hours a week, it is important to pause and catch one's breath so you can then pull-up other community members in need. He said that clubs are climbing more than ever in the past year and some clubs are climbing more than ever before. But it is important to remember to always pause after climbing.

DG Chuck asked for support for the upcoming District Conference in Atlantic City. Rooms are reasonable since the Claridge does not have a casino. Friday starts with golf and dinner, with speakers and presentations on Saturday. Some speakers from other countries. The theme for dinner on Saturday is the "roaring Twenties". Las Vegas-style attire is suggested.

At the conclusion of DG Chuck's presentation, Pres V. then asked each club member to introduce themselves and say a little about themselves. Dan started by saying he continues to be involved in a local bank Uninvest in Philadelphia and that he is looking forward to working with Rutgers college students next year.

Reverend Hamilton said he was pleased to run Strawberry Mansion's an after-school program that supports and feeds children.

Dave Still said he has been involved with the Spectracare Foundation for four years and that he was born and raised in Lindenwold. His business is to help other businesses stay in business.

Kathleen thanked Dave S. for his support of the Foundation as well as his work with the veterans and his support of animals.

Tim said he was an original e-Club member.

Pres V said he was pleased to announce that PDG Dave Z might be rejoining the e-club.

Pres V said the Chief of Staff for the Rutgers Chancellor was pleased to learn that the e-club will change its name to Rotary Club of New Jersey. Pres V said he hopes to assist Rutgers Rotaract students interconnected with our rebranded club to apply for a substantial international grant over time cultivated in gradual stages as chosen by the students in Rotaract first at the Rutgers Camden campus and then extending outward to include the Rotaract clubs in Newark and New Brunswick and Rutgers Global.

Pres V advised that the Food Bank had distributed just shy of 100 tons of food throughout the community.

Pres V will also be participating in a law clinic in the spring to help veterans and families of veterans deal with the issue of suicide as well as benefit and other legal issues with the VA. He has been assured by numerous advisors that he will be able to act as a fully functioning lawyer in NJ having a NY law license as it relates to serving veterans in VA processes.

Pres V said he is still concerned for the people of Haiti.

Kathleen said that a veteran from the Veterans Center will also shortly be joining the club.

James Young said that he is a resident of Cherry Hill and that he is pleased to be involved in the Spectracare Foundation.

Jimmy said that he is a 15-year Army Veteran and that he spent time at Fort Bragg.

Pres V wished everyone a Merry Christmas and said let us all *Climb-Pause and Pull*. The meeting ended with much goodwill and DG Chuck provided 2021-2022 theme pins for everyone in the club and proudly pinned everyone in attendance.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:14 P.M.