

Rotary Club of New Jersey

March 23, 2023

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Vice President Van Stine.

Present:

- Michael Van Stine-Vice President
- Manuel Nunez-Treasurer
- David Winter-Secretary
- Kathleen Van Stine
- Dave Still
- Dave Zelley
- Dan Tangi
- Briana Tiernan
- Eston Spain

VP Michael announced that President Jay was unable to attend. He then led club members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VP Michael began by saying membership is down to 26 and that he and Kathleen continue to seek new members. Mike said he always keeps applications handy when he meets with colleagues. In a discussion on membership development techniques, he said that coordination with the Spectra Care Foundation gives the club a real advantage, especially financially. Mike said he has the Rotary logo on his business card. He said Rotarians frequently place their picture on business cards to make them more personable. He said prefers the Four Way Test and Rotary symbol to a picture. He said membership development is important. Kathleen said if each member could get one new member the club would be up to 50 members.

Kathleen said 20 veterans recently came for a CRR Center discussion over coffee. Kathleen thanked Home Depot for a \$1,500 mini grant for the club's gardening program. She said the equine program dates in April are full. She said that five new tires were donated and will be installed on the foundation's bus and that the rear brakes will be replaced within the next week or so.

VP Michael said both the cooking class and rocket club will meet in April and May. He said the GALA is set for September 15th. Kathleen said she is hopeful that Nova Care will be a major sponsor of the GALA.

VP Michael said Moe is doing a great job for the Foundation and that he is currently working for Catholic Charities.

VP Michael said Rotaract elections are set for April. He said he wants to step down as RUC Rotaract president to get other students more involved, but that he will be on campus for the next two years and will serve as the club's VP and as liaison from RCNJ to the club. He said he has a particular student member in mind to be next year's Rotaract president.

VP Michael said Dave Z. is now an advisor since he joined a club in Denver, North Carolina. He said the North Carolina club has 60 people at each meeting and they take on two projects at each meeting.

Dave W spoke about the progress of Baby Dean, a 9-month-old grandson of close friends. The little boy underwent 8 hours of open-heart surgery at CHOP in Philadelphia and had his chest opened for three days to confirm the success of the surgery. VP Michael said a close friend spent their entire career at CHOP and that it is one of the top five children's hospitals in the country. As nursing goes, they have a great staff. Mike said he was less than two pounds at birth and that his pediatrician spent every morning with him monitoring his progress. He said the doctor saved his life. Mike met with the doctor when he was a pre-med student at Albright, but he did not remember Mike or his family. The doctor said only 5% of two-pound premature babies survive. He also told him how happy he was that he stopped by to thank him!

VP Michael said a friend works with Ukrainian craftsmen who are working on a house for Ukrainian refugees with severe injuries.

VP Michael said that a retired Army Colonel works with the Pennsylvania Parole Board assisting veterans. He said Jeff has been a real asset in assisting veterans. Kathleen also said Jeff has been a huge help in supporting veterans. VP Michael thanked Jeff for organizing the movies as part of an Eagle Scout project at the Veterans Center.

Kathleen said John from Home Depot donated a popcorn machine to the Veterans Center. She said the Celebrate Our Veterans is set for May 11 from 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. Kathleen said Mike had many veteran relatives including his dad. VP Michael said his father was in the infantry in Europe and his uncle provided tactical support for B-29 aircraft. He said the Veterans Center will continue to be available for use by families of veterans.

Manny gave the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Manny seconded by Dave W to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion approved. Manny also said he was working on moving data from Club Express to Quick Books.

VP Michael thanked Manny for doing a great job and said that inactive members should be removed from the rolls.

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