

Clinton Rotary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 24, 2022

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm. We met on line with Zoom.

Welcome Visitors or Guests:

There were no visitors or guests.

Rotary Attendance:

Renee Szewczyk, Andrew Marzanno, Michael Richards, Maria Varga, Tony Raucci,
Tom Houpert and Linda Gworek.

Mail and Communications:

A thank you note was received from The Valley Shore Literacy Volunteers for our donation to their program. There were a number of financial statements that Maria will get to Dick. We also received a sponsorship request from the Morgan School's Music Theater program for their upcoming spring musical. After discussion a motion was made by Linda, seconded by Maria to take out a 1/4 page simple typed ad (no logo) congratulating the students from The Rotary and Interact. Time was a factor since the due date is the 28th.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting (February 10, 2022)

Motion to accept minutes of our previous meeting by Tony and seconded by Renee.
Approved unanimously.

Rotary Minute:

Renee shared an uplifting thought.

New Business:

Much was discussed about the Public Info Service Day. Maria has written up a summary of our plans for that day and will submit them to the district for their information and publication. The district is encouraging clubs to promote their chosen project to the public. We discussed having it announced on our facebook page and on the sign in town across from firehouse. Renee has sent a summary of our plans to Todd, Director of Department of Public Works and has not heard back with any concerns. Maria will send out the summary to all members along with the meeting minutes. Interact will be encouraged to join us on that day. Tentative times set for 10-1.

Renee told us the district has asked for a summary of our accomplishments from the previous year. Andrew said that they can be found listed on the bottom of our website.

Fyl : a question was asked and answered...Andrew operates the Rotary website and Dee does our Facebook postings. Andrew commented that the district (Dac) is not very user friendly as far as posting to it.

The subject of in person meetings was discussed. In hopes that we can meet together in person once again, Maria contacted the Country Club. They are open to our meeting there again. The menu choices will no longer include a hamburger option. and the dinner price , which had been \$22 will need to increase to \$25 which includes tip. After discussion, Maria will have the Country Club pencil us in for those dates. Final decision will be made as the dates get closer. We will look for other options in the coming warmer weather ie Chamard Vineyards .(**Meeting dates in March on the 10th and 24th**)

It is time to plan for the Mother's Day Plant Sale. Maria will contact Viuso, but assumes that there will be a price increase from them. She strongly suggests we keep our prices the same. We had discussion about on line and in person sales (extra plants for stop by purchase will be available) . We will need some tent

coverings and tables . Renee said we could store those at the Legion prior to the weekend. The dates for the plant sale will be Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7.

Follow up

For everyone's information and planning , Renee will be putting next meeting dates on the bottom of the agenda. She has also asked that anyone who is not receiving minutes or agendas to please let her know.

Please give Maria a t shirt size...she will be ordering new t shirts for our membershipImportant for our visibility.

Fundraisers

Tony gave an update about the June concert. He will be holding a zoom meeting on March 3rd. He has the program planned out and will add sponsorships as we receive them. Concert Info and tickets will be forthcoming approximately 6 weeks before the event.

Projects/Service

The day of Rotary service will be Saturday, April 9th. We will be cleaning and sprucing up Esposito beach. This has been previously discussed in the beginning part of our meeting. FYI Low tide is at noon..perfect timing! Maria will also make a list to procure supplies (flowers, soil, mulch, etc.) Members are encourage to bring tools, rakes ..gloves...

The benches for the Peters Complex have been ordered and scheduled for delivery. No further discussion this evening .

Andrew asked if we were going to be doing any Amber Alerts. He had received a request . It was discussed and general consensus is that we are not going to continue with this program. Of the remaining clubs that were doing Amber Alerts, they are not active with this program any longer either. Our equipment is stored in

the basement of the Edward Jones office (Tom's wife, Ann) on the corner of Rt 1 and Meadow Road. It will be necessary to clean out and recycle this equipment .

Other

Tony reminded our members that last year we supported SCORE by being a sponsor for one of the workshops that his organization was presenting. He asked if we would consider doing the same this year. It was suggested that this request and other business might be discussed at a Board meeting. After some further discussion it was decided that there would be a **board meeting prior to the gathering at the country club on March 10. Time of meeting is 5:30pm.**

Linda shared Interact is going well and Diana Rizzo is doing a wonderful job .

Student of the month for February has been honored His name is Abel Rodriguez. He is a junior at Morgan, Vice president of Interact and along with other things he is the school rep to the Board of Education. Dee has posted his photo with the nominating teacher on our Facebook page. In conversation with Mrs. Hagness and Diana Rizzo at the recent presentation, both said that having it at the school has worked out very well and more teachers have been able to attend. It seems much more beneficial and personal to have the student receive the acknowledgment in a familiar and casual setting. More staff has nominated students when they can attend freely after or before school and not have to plan on an evening out . Linda suggests that we leave the presentations at the school. To be discussed at the Board meeting.

Andrew asked if everyone had the opportunity to review the list of businesses and individuals who have been sponsors or supporters for our Club. Damon Hall needs to be added.

Renee reported that a local Clinton woman (Irene Kaiser) is coordinating efforts to help an Afghan family that has located in New Haven. The Legion Auxiliary has

donated gift cards for Walmart for family to purchase items of need. If any individuals want to support these efforts, please let Renee know. They also need household items . Collection of items for this family is being held at Bill's Seafood on March 1st. Our support of these efforts will also be discussed at Board meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting was closed with the four way test at 7:48 pm

Respectfully recorded,

Linda Gworek