

## **Clinton Rotary Club Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, March 24, 2022**

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. We met at the Clinton Country Club conference room.

### **Welcome Visitors and Guests:**

Tonight we welcomed Joyce Mason and Nancy Burns from Quilts of Valor.

### **Rotarians in Attendance:**

Renee Szewczyk, Michael Richards, Linda Gworek, Tony Raucci, Tom Houpert, Andy Berliner, Ted Eastwood, Angie Vincenty, Nelson Vincenty, Dick Mason, Ruth Baker and Maria Varga.

### **Mail and Communications:**

Bank and investment statements were received and given to our treasurer. A request for support was addressed to the Cancer Relief Fund.

Approval of Minutes of the March 10, 2022, a motion was made to accept the minutes of our previous meeting by Andy and seconded by Ted. Minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Rotary Minute/Introduction of Nancy Burns**

Renee tabled "words of wisdom" and instead welcomed Linda to formally introduce Nancy Burns. Nancy heads "Quilts of Valor." Nancy expressed her gratitude to our club for the generous donation of \$500.00. This money will go toward fabric, supplies and batting. The cost of materials for each quilt is approximately \$250.00. The creative members, including Linda often spend money out of their own pockets to purchase supplies. Members truly feel honored to participate in this program, recognizing and paying tribute to veterans who served our country. "Quilts of Valor" was founded by Kathryn Roberts in 2003 and was formerly known as "Quilts for Soldiers." Nancy visits other clubs and organizations along the shoreline to speak, receive donations and also to make presentations. Nominations for quilts can be made by anyone and are welcome. Nancy and Linda displayed a few different quilts and explained that each quilt comes with a coordinated quilt bag, similar to a pillowcase for storage and travel.

## **Presentations of Quilts to two very surprised club members.**

Nancy and Linda presented a quilt to Nelson with recognition of his service in the Navy. His quilt represents the Navy. This presentation was a beautiful and memorable experience for everyone in attendance. Dick Mason's presentation followed. Nancy shared just a bit about his service. Dick's role in the Air Force was in national security. No surprise for those who know and love him! His quilt is beautiful and reflects his service in the Air Force. What was truly amazing was that both quilts were handmade by our very own and very talented Linda Gworek! It was a pleasure and honor to be present for this very special ceremony! On behalf of the Clinton Rotary Club, congratulations to Nelson and Dick and thank you for your sacrifice and service to our Country!

## **New Business**

**Closer to Free Ride** – Dick shared that Liz Eagan has reached out to our club to coordinate a 5K Clinton Rotary Club Family Bike Ride that would occur along with the Smilow Closer to Free Ride in September. Members discussed how this project would interfere and impact our ability to host our annual Corn hole Tournament later in September. As Angie so eloquently stated “our club is known as the Corn Hole Club.” It was decided that our club would like to support this project and like to learn more about it. Dick will reach out to Liz Eagan

## **Follow up**

**Amber Alert Child ID Program and Equipment**, a topic we keep putting off. Linda made a motion to eliminate the Amber Alert Child ID Program, Andy seconded her motion. The membership voted unanimously to eliminate it, collect and dispose of the equipment. Jack Eagan may know if anyone would like the equipment. It is old and outdated. Renee will take care of removing and disposing of it.

**Soup Kitchen**, Renee shared that anyone who prepares food at the Methodist Church needs to be formally trained in food safety. Linda is already trained. Renee has volunteered to receive training. Our club is responsible for purchasing a new microwave oven for the Soup Kitchen. Maria will contact Gerry Vece at Shoreline Appliances to take care of it.

**Easter Baskets**, Linda reports that things are moving along and people are very generous. Joyce asked about Killingworth families. They will be included and need between 10-12 baskets for children receiving meals from the Killingworth Elementary School.

**Ukraine**, our club unanimously voted to donate \$1000.00 to purchase a Shelter Box at our 3/10/22 meeting. This is part of a district or area matching grant program that includes 5 clubs.

## Fundraisers

**Rock Around the Clock**, Tony shared the poster for this event and printed at Technique. Renee has at least one motorcycle and possibly two for the stage during the performance. Tony has all aspects of the event completed. Dance practice will occur in May. Dick spoke with the police chief and estimates the cost of security for the evening of our event will be approximately \$750.00. Tony says the more sponsors we have, the larger our profits will be. Go out and get sponsors! There was some discussion about where the proceeds from this event would go and advertising this information might boost ticket sales. No final decisions were made.

**Mother's Day Plant Sale**, our sale is scheduled for Mother's Day weekend, **Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-4:00pm and Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am-4:00pm at the American Legion**. We are taking orders again this year and will have approximately 50 extra baskets and planters available for sale that weekend. The cost remains at \$25.00 per hanging basket or planter. This information can now be available on Facebook and on our website.

## Rotary Day of Service, April 9<sup>th</sup>

Our club has decided to clean Esposito Beach and plant flowers in the raised beds in front of it. Maria will pick up the pansies and daffodils from Vaiuso Farms next week. Michael has offered to pick up top soil and mulch. We will provide receipts to Dick. Please come prepared with garden tools and gloves on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Renee has offered to pickup coffee for our group of volunteers.

**Afghan family**, Tom met Irene who lives here in Clinton. She's a volunteer who has been supporting a family who has emigrated from Afghanistan. The father was an interpreter for American soldiers stationed in Afghanistan. Their family needs so much as it gets settled in their home. Maria made a motion for our club to purchase a Wal-Mart gift card for \$250.00. Andy seconded the motion and the club unanimously approved the motion. Dick will purchase the gift card. **Joyce will remind him.**

## Other

Chief DiMaio would like to visit our club for a dinner meeting.

Linda presented the **Student of the Month** this afternoon. The student, **Anderson Darr** and his parents attended the presentation along with Morgan faculty. **Congratulations to Anderson Darr!** Thank you Linda!

Several scholarship applications have been received.

Joyce brought a raffle prize to be raffled off at another meeting.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was closed with the four way test at 7:56pm

Respectfully recorded,

Maria Varga