

Call to Order:

The meeting was held at The Clinton Country Club and was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Welcome Visitors or Guests:

Mary Ann and Ralph Stroup , Speakers for the evening

Rotarians in Attendance:

Michael Richards, Ted Eastwood,, Maria Varga , Tom Houpert, Dick Mason,
Andrew Marzanno, Tony Raucci, Linda Gworek.

Mail/Communications/Minutes of Previous Meeting

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting made and seconded.

The minutes were approved.

There were some bank statements and a bill that had already been paid.

Rotary Minute

Andrew shared some words of advice left to us by Jim Beardsley.

Speakers:

At tis time our speakers begin their presentation. Mary Ann had reminded us that she had visited out group several years ago to ask for support for the Kenyan Health Care Initiative so a clinic could be built in a Kenya village. She and Ralph are now spearheading an effort to build a library and community center that will make a huge difference to the village. They narrated a power point presentation that was filled with information and photos. We will consider their request in the future at a board meeting.

New Business

The Liberty Bank Food drive is active. Renee has contacted Stop and Shop about holding a food collection and they have agreed to let us host this on Saturday, October 29th and Sunday, October 30th. Liberty Bank will continue to match cash donation \$.25 on a \$1.00.

Liberty Bank is not collecting the money this year. Donations that are made can be sent directly to the Community Foundation of Middlesex County or given to local clubs and the club will mail or deliver the collected funds to the Community Foundation. Monies will then be donated by Liberty Bank to the designated recipients of this year's drive. We have completed the letter of our intent to participate and designated the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries as the recipient. Linda has contacted the Shoreline Soup Kitchen Office of Amy Hollis, Executive Director and informed them of our intent. She has also spoken to the new director at the Clinton Pantry, Manager, Bob Eburg. He will be putting together a list of some requested items. We will set the time as 9-1. The Fire department will partner with us, but drills are scheduled for that weekend as well, (numbers may be low) Linda will be working with Sandy Voss to get us a truck for visibility. She will contact Interact for help.

We will need to get the items collected to the pantry.

Linda has received a check from Christo Jewelers and Maria will contact Gerry Vice. These two individuals have helped us with monetary donations in the past drives.

Follow up:

Feed our Neighbors: took place on Saturday, September 24, at the Madison Congregational Church. The students from Morgan who help impressed everyone. Renee would like a letter sent complimenting them to the school. Linda will handle.

There are three students from Morgan registered to attend RYLA. Dick has sent check for the fee and has filed for the grants to cover some of the expense.

Fundraisers:

Tony has begun work on a concert fundraiser . He reported he has set a date (November 4, 2023) . It will be a Beetlemainia theme with band from the last concert performing again. Tony has met with Mary Anne O'Donnell (Superintendent) and Keri Hagness (Principal at Morgan) as well as Susan Murphy, the director of the foods program at Morgan. The evening will include refreshments prior to the concert provided by Morgan students. Cost will be built into ticket. He is hoping that individuals who served on the concert committee last year will do it again. A Trio will provide pre concert entertainment. He also shared some budget figures. He was looking for approval to move forward . No official vote is needed .

We spoke about the Cornhole tournament. Dick said our sponsorships were way down. But we did clear \$520. The Elks club said they would be active in promoting next years event.

Projects/Services:

Linda announced that the Student of the Month has begun. The first presentation took place this week. Her name is Giovann Santos. She is a positive force at Morgan , helpful and always willing to help where she can. She serves the school by being a voice for students who have english as a second language.

Linda also reported about Interact. They are very active this year and they are quite a large group. She shared that the students and Diana Rizzo are packing close to 90 generous Halloween gift bags with cards for the residents of Glen Haven and Ocean Meadows. Maria asked if the club needed financial support. Linda shared that Diana said that this project was costly and yes, might we want to help with this. Andrew suggested that we invite Diana and the officers to our next meeting to meet them and have them tell us what other things they are planning this year so we can support their efforts. Linda will extend an invitation to the November 3rd meeting at the country club. Interact Members are also volunteering at the Quilts of Valor presentations on Saturday and the Monster Mash at Joel this weekend.

Other:

Zoom meeting on Thursday for details of food drive?

Discussion about the invitation for a Christmas party at Stanton house with the Madison Rotary on Dec 8th. The members in attendance thought that sounded like a good idea.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm with the four way test.

Respectfully recorded, Linda Gworek