

Rotary Club of New Jersey
October 24, 2024

Present: Michael Van Stine, President
Manuel Nunez, Treasurer
Brianna Tiernan, Secretary
Shy Meyers
Kathleen Van Stine
Clarence Cummings
Shibin Yan

Michael opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Michael addressed the email exchanges with RI and with the DG he had shared with the club. Michael has been advocating for the club -- within the rules of RI -- to more directly link all the work we do using SCF as a 501(c)3 for both charitable fundraising and also tax-exempt charitable programming. He has also been trying to achieve an additional layer of insurance for activities directly linked to the club. An addendum will be added that "Rotary Club of NJ Foundation" and "Rotary NJ Foundation" names can be used interchangeably for our club foundation, but unlike earlier plans to simply attach the dual labeling to SCF, we must instead form a new foundation entity with Rotary labeling and then enter into an RI acceptable partnership agreement between the club, the new foundation and SCF. Legally these will all be separate entities. Manuel has been instructed to keep separate books and records for all three, and we will see what can be done to simplify tax filing although it looks like it will be unavoidable that the new foundation will have to file its own tax returns. As for the insurance, Michael explained that SCF has substantial insurance coverage for both the building and its volunteer activities. But moving forward in this new interconnected structure, we will only be covering club members when the club actively participates in any activity. Any volunteer or participant who is not a club member will be asked to sign a liability waiver agreement. This will not be needed on bus trips as the bus is covered under a separate insurance policy.

Tom McPherson and a friend of his will be going to NC early November. Because the club had approved \$300 to go to NC for Hearts with Hands in the Asheville area, Michael motioned to reallocate the funds to Tom, Kathleen seconded, and the motion passed. This will greatly help Tom cover the costs for the trip. They have secured five generators and a substantial number of relief items from clothing to food and personal care items.

Kathleen shared that the Garden State Rotary club was thrilled with their meeting with us in October. They loved Shy's food, and the work of our club. The members had a successful club meeting of their own and enjoyed themselves at the center.

There were 35 attendees at the last Coffee and Conversation. Kathleen's cousin's son has been deployed to Florida. A list from the unit has been provided to Kathleen. Several attendees are

joining together to gather donations for hurricane victims. Items are needed more than money since the stores were also devastated.

Saturday is the big KOVA event at SCF. The event is 11-2, Kathleen will be there at 9.

Everyone was encouraged to keep selling Indian Rocks "Big Game" tickets!! Kathleen reminded of the deadline for members to turn in their money and ticket stubs. The package must be received by the Indian Rocks club by Friday November 29. So, we need all tickets and money returned to Kathleen by 5:00 pm Wednesday November 27.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday November 14. That meeting will be focused on a planned merger of all districts in NJ into one. Either PDG Michael Thompson or DGN Bill Merchantini will attend virtually and guide our discussion. Then, a reminder that our annual DG meeting is set for November 21, and it will now start at 7:30 pm and will last 90 minutes. It will also now be 100% virtual. This will no longer be a dinner meeting at 777. All were urged to note the changes on their calendars. Michael will be sending out separate notices for both meetings. With the potential merger of districts, Michael wants us all to work toward a club that can offer more kinship and service opportunities to more people.

Manuel then presented the Treasurer's report. Michael motioned to approve the report, Brianna seconded, and the motion passed.

Michael motioned to adjourn; Manuel seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.