

Rotary Club of New Jersey

June 8, 2023

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M. by President Young.

Present:

- Jay Young-President
- Michael Van Stine-Vice President
- Manuel Nunez-Treasurer
- David Winter-Secretary
- Kathleen Van Stine
- Dave GoWell
- Eston Spain
- Brianna Tiernan
- Arman Bucci

Pres Jay began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pres Jay said he hoped all were doing well dealing with the smoke from the fires in Canada.

Kathleen said there were speakers lined up for the Veterans Center's Health Care Seminar this week and Nova Care next week. She said the gardening program is going well and that new tires and brakes have been installed on the bus. She said she is working on getting an auto body shop to paint the bus, and that our sign vendor would be doing the decaling for free. She also described a new coffee purchase fundraising program that yields the Foundation \$5 for every \$12 bag sold.

VP Michael said he hopes to have a Zoom connection whenever there is a speaker at the Veterans Center. Mike said it is difficult for speakers at RCNJ meetings due to the short time available at meetings. But he hopes to have a joint Zoom effort for members to see the CRR Center speakers.

Kathleen said the Rehab program speaker she scheduled was excellent. She reminded all that June 14 is Flag Day. Kathleen advised that Pres Jay would be receiving Camden County medal and certificate recognition on Flag Day at the Battleship New Jersey. She said that next May 11 there will be a medal ceremony for Mikes's dad and other family members at the Center. She said that this was all part of expanding the use of the center for NJ families for personal family get-togethers for memorial recognitions. She then said she was pleased that the flagpole has been repaired and that our U.S. and POW flags will be going back up.

Pres Jay thanked Kathleen for all her efforts for the Foundation. Jay said the Thursday activities at the Center are going very well.

Kathleen then said the activities at the CRR Center are a team effort and that Equine Therapy sessions will be held at our horse stable on 6/10 and 6/17. She said there will be new Mental Health classes for veterans at the end of September.

VP Michael said Kathleen has done an amazing job of getting help for veterans, especially on the issue of mental health. Mike said the Model Rocket class originally set for last month will also soon be rescheduled. Mike said Kathleen got the four tires and brakes for the bus at no charge. Mike said the Promenade will be sponsoring a Car Show with all proceeds going to the Foundation.

Kathleen said the model rocket class will be using the bus to go to an open field to shoot off rockets after they have been assembled in class.

Kathleen said is currently helping a veteran husband and wife find an apartment and other support efforts for vulnerable veterans and seniors are ongoing.

VP Michael said that Auto Adventures will be donating a trailer. Mike said he is meeting with the current owners of Unit B and Unit C so the Foundation can own the entire building. He is optimistic that the business proposals presented to them will be acceptable and time with the cutoff date for property tax exemption filing this year.

Mike said RCNJ is still the sole sponsor of Rutgers Camden Rotaract and has developed a preliminary association with the New Brunswick and Newark clubs. He said the Rotaract club hopes to would with North Camden Community Gardens with the Interact students at the LEAP Academy, assist us with our developing international project, and perhaps assist Connie Sparks and Dave Z with the medical mission to Zambia in the Fall.

VP Michael thanked Dave GoWell for attending and expressed his hope that he will become our Youth Services Chair and help work with Interact and Rotaract clubs. Mike also said he continues to have a direct relationship with RI staff in the Office of the Americas. He also said he hopes we have a changeover dinner at the end of June.

Dave W will be donating an official Rotary Bell to the club.

VP Michael said the new banner represents both RCNJ and Rutgers Camden Rotaract.

After some pleasantries, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 P.M.