

Rotary Club of New Jersey

September 8, 2022

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 by Vice President Michael.

Present: Michael Van Stine-Vice President  
Manuel Nunez-Treasurer  
David Winter-Secretary  
Dave Zelley  
Dan Tangi  
Justin Green

VP Michael advised that Pres Jay is now in a rehab facility after a bad fall and having major surgery on both knees. He is anxious to get back to being productive. His recovery time is unknown.

VP Michael encouraged all to attend the SCF GALA on Sept. 24. RCNJ is one of only a few clubs that have a formal connection relationship with a non-profit partner.

VP Michael said that RI representative Sophie has not been able to secure the Charter for the Rotaract Club at Rutgers Camden. The club already has five members signed up even though classes have just started. Mike is working with the New Brunswick Rotaract Club and Rutgers Global to begin the process of developing a joint International Project. VP Michael will send out a 45-minute video in reference to the probable choice of its International Project. Mike hopes RCNJ will discuss the video after all have viewed it.

Manny advised that no one gets paid at the Spectra Care Foundation. All staff donate their time. All real estate is in the name of the 501(c)(3). He repeated that all are proud of the relationship between RCNJ and the Spectra Care Foundation.

Dave Z advised that PDG Joanne said the club will get the latest district grant for which we applied. He also spoke to Melanie and clarified that the e-Club is indeed reflected as RCNJ on the district website.

VP Michael thanked Dave Z for all his efforts. He said the club cannot receive two grants so the Camden application will be dropped for now. He said we can independently fundraise for it later. He said that the Lindenwold-specific PTSD gardening program linked also to the Runnemedede/Glendora/Bellmawr and White Horse Rotary clubs will be a valuable program. He assured all that the Lindenwold grant will be a success and that supervising two projects at the same time would have been a challenge.

Dave Z said he did not get a response from the White Horse club regarding joint efforts. VP Michael said that food insecurity continues to be an issue in the community.

VP Michael said the Indian Rocks raffle tickets are on hold for now. Mike said the Gala is consuming a great deal of everyone's time at the moment. He thanked Kathleen and Manuel for their monumental efforts on the Gala. Mike said 100 tickets have been sold which covers the minimum required. The Foundation hopes to raise \$7,500. He said the Gala agenda is now complete and includes Brig. General DiNapoli is one of the keynote speakers. Honoring Heroes is a major emphasis of the program. VPVS said that service dog Batman will be given the Spectra Care Medal of Honor at the event, along with a Velcro patch for RCNJ. He will be wearing both when he goes on the Rachel Ray TV show announcing his retirement. VP Michael VS said that veterans will be honored in groups including WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Afghanistan. Manny said he spent hours researching virtual tickets for the Gala and the only problem is WIFI access. He wants the access to be as professional as possible. He said the virtual tickets represent 100% profit.

VP Michael said he wants to expand the Paws Healing Heroes program which has trained over 80 dogs. Mike wants to commit 25K combined as a stretch goal from the club, Foundation, and district to train and place a minimum of five dogs in the coming year. Mark Eberle, the owner of Paws Healing Heroes, will be speaking about the program. VP Michael VS said that veterans will be honored in groups including WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Afghanistan.

VP Michael thanked everyone for their support.

Treasurer Manny said RI and local District dues have been paid.

VP Michael said that Pres Jay is unable to work at this time and thanked Dan for stepping to collect past-due dues. Dan asked if non-payment of dues leads to termination. VPVS confirmed but said most members will bring their accounts up to date. VP Michael asked Dan to keep an audit trail of his efforts.

VP Michael said the DG is set to visit on October 27. Dave Z reminded all that Pres Jay must attend or the date must be changed.

Manny was pleased to say his last bowling series was a remarkable 650.

Dave W was pleased that his group won the Labor Day event at his Connecticut Club.

VP Michael urged all to have a safe two weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 P.M.