

Reporting Meeting of November 23, 2020

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 11/16 Michael Saccocio – City Mission
This Week: 11/23 Club Assembly
Next Week: 11/30 Virtual Card Making Party
Coming Up: 12/01 Community Tree Lighting and Santa Visit- (Tuesday)
12/07 Boyhaven to Camp Stomping Ground
12/14 Virtual Holiday Party

Note: Regular ZOOM meetings are held Monday Evenings at 6:00 pm. Check your e-mail box the day of the meeting for the computer ZOOM ID# and Password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

*Please give suggestions for future programs to Gregg Schorr
Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook*

“Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dan Stec began the meeting with a quote from Danny Thomas about success being based on what you do for others.
- The meeting focused on a review of the **Board of Directors Meeting:**
- **Membership:** Jon Costello reported district 7190’s membership had declined and Rotary International has indicated that membership needs to increase in the district for the district to remain the same. District 7190 needs to have 1200 members in order to remain. (Current membership is approximately 1100.) The district has scheduled upcoming meetings to discuss membership and training opportunities to grow membership. Rotary Opens Opportunities - Monday, November 30th, at 7pm. There was a discussion about the impact of Covid on membership and if consideration should be given to clubs struggling with membership during this time. Recommended for all club members to partake in this effort. We all need to take an active part in increasing our district membership, so that our district remains intact.
- Jon Costello reported on the **Apple Run**. There were 75 participants in the Apple Run. The goal this year was 50 participants, which was

surpassed. He gave a “shout out” to the BHBL Field Hockey Team for increasing participation.

- On November 27th there is a district foundation meeting and Jennifer Jones will be speaking. Jon Costello will be sending an email about annual giving to the **Foundation**.
- **Polar Plunge:** The event at Lake George has been cancelled. Ray and Gini Whetten said it could be done at Ballston Lake. Ray explained that the boat launch near Villagio would be an appropriate site for a polar plunge. More needs to be investigated and discussed. Item tabled.
- **When will Ballston Lake Ice Break Up?** Fundraising idea to pick date when Ballston Lake ice will melt. Members could place a nominal wager of \$5 to select a date. More discussion needed. Item tabled.
- **Spartan Catering:** Mary and Gregg have suggested speaking with Nikki Boehm about scheduling an event in April similar to the August event.
- **Community Service Committee:** Pete Sawyer volunteered to chair the community service committee and will follow up with Jon Costello, current chair.
- **Cemetery Clean Up:** The McDonald family cemetery on Ballston Lake will be scheduled in 2021. Peter Sawyer will contact Rick Reynolds for details. The cemetery is off of Whites Beach Road.
- The Board shared that a **donation of \$220** was made to the Saratoga War Horse Foundation. The amount of \$220 represents the 22 veterans that take their own life each day. Saratoga War Horse Foundation serves military veterans and service members living with Post-Traumatic Stress. Their participants’ trauma is most often a result of combat experiences, Military Sexual Trauma and/or transitioning from military to civilian life. They help these veterans to move past their trauma by partnering them with rescued and retired off-the-track Thoroughbred racehorses.
- Mary Anderson shared the **Town in Bloom** final report. The program received a donation of \$2,220 ensuring its continuation.
- Mike Brewster shared an update about the **Christmas Tree Lighting** ceremony scheduled for December 1. Set up will begin around 4:30 PM and take down will begin about 7:15 PM. Decorations will include many inflatables and candy canes will be given out by elves. Rotary, BPA, Friends of the Library and High School staff will all assist in making this a meaningful event for the community.

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- Linda and Mike shared information about the virtual **Holiday Party**. There is a \$20 limit for the holiday exchange. Linda recently shared a detailed email about the party. The Holiday Party will be virtual on December 14 at 6 PM.
- Linda shared an update on **Seeds for Peace**. The seeds were delivered to the Regional Food Bank. Members have assisted in sorting the seeds. Linda has more seeds that need to be sorted. Please reach out to her if you are available to sort seeds.
- Silas Schrader shared pictures on **the new pavilion at Indian Meadows**. There will be a dedication on Friday, December 4, 2020. The pavilion will be available for rent to community members.
- **Giving Tuesday**. Tom Brownell updated members on Giving Tuesday, which is scheduled for December 1. There is an announcement on the Rotary Website where you can donate on line to the Foundation. Funds are redistributed later for district grants.
- Gini and Ray Whetten shared that they went to Maplewood today with cards as part of the **Nursing Home Card Project**. Unfortunately, they are closed due to a staff member testing positive. Mary Anderson reported that she approached Interact and the club will be participating by donating 17 reindeer donations. The school club advisor, Cheryl Bach, will drop off cards and decorations at Gil's. "Gini will share a supply list for next week's card project.
- Gini reported on **Books for Troops**. The books continue to be donated and shipped. It costs approximately \$15 to ship a box of books.
- Silas shared that the Investment Committee will be meeting again and is looking for volunteers.
- Mike Brewster led happy dollars during which time Bill Lonergan shared he took a nap.

Reported by Maryellen Symer