

## Reporting Meeting of 28 February 2022

### Calendar of Events

**Last Week:** 2/21 Presidents' Day – No Meeting

**This Week:** 2/28 Metrofix, Combative Comeback of a Company Town, William Patrick

**Next Week:** 3/7 Karen Stanley-White, Executive Director STEP

**Coming Up:** 3/14 Club Assembly Hybrid via zoom or in person at Pizza Works in Burnt Hills

3/21 ShelterBox with Larry Jones

**Note: Regular Zoom Meetings are held Mondays at 6:30 pm.**

Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer Zoom link 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 Darlene Bower & Dan Stec.  
Find us at [bhblrotary.org](http://bhblrotary.org) and on Facebook*

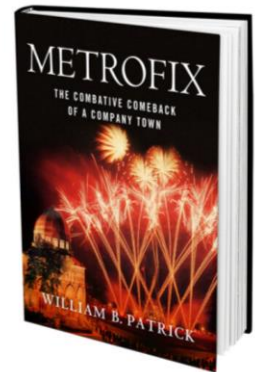
*Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves*

moving of GE businesses out of Schenectady under Jack Welsh during the eighties and nineties.

Schenectady 2000 began as a volunteer project to clean up and paint the deterioration infrastructure. Good work was accomplished with volunteer labor. But there was little funding and no reliable sources for undertaking serious development. During the following 3-4 years Schenectady 2000 was converted to Metroplex, which overcame the objections of some local politicians becoming an independent New York State authority, funded by a share of the Schenectady County sales tax, employing a paid staff headed by Ray Gillen. The Metroplex enabling statute allows the Authority to design, plan, finance, site, construct, administer, operate, manage and maintain facilities within its service district.

Over the Metroplex years Schenectady has turned from the previous decay and is now more diversified and thriving.

For more information, read the book!



### METROFIX – WILLIAM PATRICK



William Patrick is the author of the new local history *Metrofix – The Combative Comeback of a Company Town*, relating the decline of Schenectady in the post-WWII decades and its rebirth and comeback starting with Schenectady 2000, the creation of Neil Golub of the Golub Corporation/Price Chopper markets and Roger Hull, then president of Union College. It is available at The Open-Door bookstore and at several Price Chopper markets.

The presentation began with the telling of the story of the unsuccessful urban-renewal project Canal Square and the failure of Angelo Mazzone's first restaurant Peggy's Canalside. Schenectady's decline was attributed to many factors including destruction of inner-city housing by misguided 'renewal', white flight from the city to the suburbs, rising crime, loss of urban shopping to suburban malls, the demise of the American Locomotive Company and the closing and

### CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dan Stec: The District Conference will be held on 29 April
- Dan: Wine and Whiskey Sampling at Galway Rock Winery on 26 March at 6 PM. Heavy hors d'oeuvres to be served; benefits Rotary Polio program; registration \$75/person.
- Darlene Bower: 4/25 Pints for Polio/Social/Guest Night @ Frog Alley Brewing in Schenectady
- Darlene: 4/10 Best Buddies walk: please join her!
- Darlene: Mellissa Ward of Twin Bridges club is working on updating the BHBL Rotary website. The finished site will be similar to Glenville's.
- Darlene showed a spreadsheet relating club committees to members; took additions and corrections; will share w/ members.
- Linda LeTendre discussed a community program by the son of a Tuskegee Airman to be held at the Town Hall on 6/20 at 6 PM. More to follow.
- Happy \$ skipped that night due to the length of the program.

*Reported by Fred Baily*