

SPOKE June 1, 2021

The meeting was held at the residence of Lisa Wisotsky, Club President. She, with President Elect Jacqueline Gutman and fellow Rotarian Charlotte Bennett Schoen provided a delightful lunch for the 20 in person club attendees and one guest. Seven members logged in virtually.

Scott Reddin led members in the pledge.

Hilary Vidars gave words of inspiration. She likened Rotary linking one member to the next from the past into the future to do good in the world to a poem *The Bridge Builder* of Will Allen Dromgoole.

An old man going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen tide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

“Old man,” said a fellow pilgrim near,
“You are wasting your strength with building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way;
You’ve crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?”

The builder lifted his old gray head;
“Good friend, in the path I have come,” he said,
“There followed after me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, [I am](#) building this bridge for him!

President Lisa reported on the highlights of the year. Most of our grant making went to address food insecurity in Englewood. When Rotary International Added “Environment” as an area of Rotary focus, our club, led by Dave Maron organized the April McKay Park cleanup to celebrate Earth Day. Our signature project, *Teens for Peace* culminates in the dedication of the Peace Pole on Monday June 7th at 6 PM at Veteran’s Park. The Dictionary Project is underway, soon to have its first in person activity at Moriah school distributing the dictionaries to the third graders. On June 15th we are dedicating a bench with a plaque at the Englewood Boat Basin to honor George

Milne On June 29th we will hold our Installation of Officers at 6 PM at the home of Florence Marchi. Our attendance was via virtual participation, though we did not see several members who chose not to log on. Throughout the year we had speakers and guests from around the Country and world.

Mitch reported on two amendments to the By-Laws.

Amend Article VIII Section 1 to add the following new Standing Committee:

Finance Committee: This Committee shall be responsible to (a) recommend to the Board policies for financial management of the Club; (b) review, question and approve the Club's proposed budget for submission to the Board; (c) and, at least quarterly, during the year, audit the financial performance of the Club.

Upon a motion from Janet and second from Jim the proposed amendment carrier without dissent.

Amend Article IV, Section 2 Meetings

The time and location of the weekly meetings and the annual meeting will be at the Club Board's discretion.

After a motion from Kathy and second from Sue the amendment carried unanimously.

Steve presented the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee. That committee consisted of Steve, Jackie, Lisa & Charlotte.

The slate is:

President: Jackie Gutman

Immediate Past President: Lisa Wisotsky

President Elect: Mike Jacobs

Vice President: Kevin Brown

Secretary: Mitch Schonfeld

Treasurer: Kathy Silberstein

Sargent at Arms: Mike Prigoff

There were no nominations from the floor. The election will be held on June 29th, followed by the installation.

Kathy gave the Finance report.

We have just shy of \$39,500 in our checking account

One third of our members have paid their dues. Kathy will be away until mid June and upon return will expect to find dues payments in the PO box: Rotary Club of Englewood, PO Box 412, Englewood, NJ 07631. The Gala thus far has grossed \$12,500 with a few more checks coming in today to be recorded. Happy Dollars are \$10,500 for the year. Total giving for the year is \$19K with 4K of that going to international projects.

Announcements:

We received a District grant of \$2,000 towards the \$3,000 cost of the Teens for Peace and Peace Pole Project. Earlier this year we received \$1,800 from the District for food insecurity due to COVID, and \$750 from NVE Bank for our Earth Day cleanup sponsorship.

The June 7th Peace Pole Dedication is at 6 PM at Veterans's Park

June 8th Club meeting is virtual with Rotarians from Iowa and Minnesota on peace letters.

June 8th is also the final Board meeting of Lisa's year.

June 15th at 2 PM is the ceremony for George Milne's memorial bench at the Boat Basin.

"Light" refreshments will be served. The rain date is June 22nd.

There is no regular nor virtual meeting on June 22nd (unless we need the rain date).

June 23rd is the Banner Exchange. It is an indoor dinner. Notify Mike Jacobs if attending.

June 29th is the Installation at Florence's home.

Mayor Wildes announced thanks and appreciation for the Englewood Memorial Day Celebration, the first without Olga.

Dean announced that June 16th the Bristol is hosting a Drive By event. Get a drink, make a putt and get a chance to win.

Shelly announced that the Community Chest virtual gala is June 2nd.

During Happy Dollars members introduced themselves. It was our first live meeting in over a year.

Attendance: 27 of 75 36%