



Rotary Club of Kalamazoo

June 28, 2021

Editorian: Amy Remmert

The Changing of the Guard

Today's Meeting was held appropriately at the Douglas Community Association as the Rotary Club of Kalamazoo inducted the 2021-22 Club President, Sid Ellis.

The National Anthem was sung Acapella and the invocation was given by Aaron Winters who asked that we have a moment of silence for the deaths of former member Joe Gagie and honorary member Marilyn Schlack.

Paul Harris Awards were presented:

Larry Deniston, Martin Velton (+1), Sid Ellis (+1), Martin Velton (+1), Rex Bell (+2), Lisa Anspaugh, Bob Boughner, Jeff Ross and Bryan Zocher (+3) Steve Kreider (+4) Dave Boutell (+5), Steve Duisterhof (+6), Jim Cupper (+7) Dori Kunkle (+8) and Jim Woodruff (?).

THE HAS BEEN SPEECH: Steve Kreider determined that it was difficult to conduct the meeting of the HAS BEEN'S due to COVID. But here goes.

HANDOVER PRESENTATION

JUNE 28, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Has Been Society – June 25, 2021.

Meeting was called to order by PP Steve Kreider at 12:01 pm.

The meeting started with a re-enactment of the Justin Timberlake-Janet Jackson Super Bowl version of the National Anthem. Tim Kilmartin was accompanied by PP Bryan Zocher. Zocher wanted the minutes to reflect that he portrayed Timberlake. Duly noted.

Prior to approving the agenda, PP Kreider spent several minutes responding to questions about whether or not Aaron Rodgers would be with the Packers this season. Steve mentioned that his therapist recommended he not be afraid to confront the possibility of a Rodgers-less Packer team and to share his feelings with trusted family and friends, and he took a risk that most in attendance were trusted.

It was noted that with the Governor's lifting of Covid restrictions the meeting was able to be held under the Patterson Street Bridge, as mandated by Has Been By Laws, section 12e.

PP and Rex Bell made a motion to re-write the By Laws to cover future pandemic related changes. PP and PDG Jim Cupper seconded the motion with a "knock yourself out" comment.

PP Sandy Bliessner asked if being President of the Satellite Club and PP of the regular Club gave her special status as a 2 time President of the Club. A motion was made by PP PDG Rick Briscoe, seconded by PP Deb Choche Hughes to give her that special status. It was passed with two dissenting votes, as a member of the Society thought wrongly that he could vote twice.

PP President Joe Brogger asked that we get back to the business at hand, considering the acceptance of current President Seth Weeldreyer into the Has Been Society. But Joe first wanted to make sure everyone knew that the National Boys Junior Tennis Championships would be held at Kalamazoo College again this year in early August. Duly noted.

PP Ken Young said he didn't get last year's minutes in the mail. PP Kilmartin said they were sent as a PDF by email. Young was heard to mumble under his breath, "feel like I'm in a Progressive Insurance ad, what the hell is a PDF?".

PP Bridenstine whispered to Young, I had a PDF once but my doctor gave me something that cleared it right up.

PP Jack Hopkins asked if there was going to be time for Happy Bucks as his alma mater, Macarana College won the regional small college JV co-ed log rolling competition again this year. (Might have the college wrong)

Judy Moore finally called the question of considering the acceptance of current President Seth Weeldreyer into the Has Been Society. She noted that Seth served the entire year virtually with admirable leadership qualities, navigating through an unprecedented year, that required flexibility and creativity. And of course, heavy leaning on Annette Rose for support and guidance. Prior to the vote, PP Deb Choche Hughes wondered if we should address the rumor that most weeks Seth wasn't wearing pants during the meetings and talked about just getting out of his robe. At which point, it became very quiet as several members of the Society oddly were not making eye contact. And, PP and PDG Karl Sandelin was heard to whisper, "is that frowned upon?" After an awkward silence the vote was called and passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, PPPP Kreider

Because we have been in virtual mode for the past 15 months, Past President Seth Weeldreyer did not official receive the Goose. So for one minute, he was able to hold it in his hands.

President Sid spoke of his goals and remarked that his 3-5 minute presentation would be hard to adhere to HA HA HA. But he promised to move things with some momentum and that he would keep the club working for better relationship and strive for hands on community service.

Retiring Board President Seth Weeldreyer spoke of some of the challenges dealt with over his year including ZOOM and the lack of ability to meet up with Rotary friends in person. However,

there were some highlights in that we continued meeting in spite of the COVID and we had some great speakers.

Past Chair Person, Duane Powell, of the Rotary Satellite Club (RoSat) spoke of the many accomplishments in spite of COVID. Thanksgiving food baskets were delivered as were packets of Christmas gifts for adopt a family. Unlike the main club, which has faced challenges of finding a meeting space suitable, large enough and available for in person meetings, the RoSat has been meeting in small numbers at local establishments. The incoming Club Chair of RoSat was introduced and that person is Sandy Bliesener. Congrats Sandy. The traditional GROWLER was handed over to her to guard with her life.

One of the final tasks of the meeting was to hand over the Goose to incoming president Sid Ellis. The story about the goose is that when geese fly in formation, there is one who leads the group as they travel. When the lead goose gets tired, he moves to the back and another will take it's place, showing that leadership transitions but that everyone works together for the good of all.