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**Hanover Rotary Club Minutes**

**4/21/22 Weekly Meeting**

Brenda called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM.

**Blessing: Brenda**

**Pledge: Ken**

**Attending Members:** In person: Brenda, Robert, Judson, Michelle, David Creasey, Ken, Penny, Canova, Sanjeev

On Zoom:

**Honorary Rotarian:**

**Visiting Rotarians:** Kevin Smyth (and his wife Melinda Smyth) from Mechanicsville Rotary

**Guests:** Kathryn Bremaer & Greg Harris from Grace Christian School

**Sergeant-at-Arms Report**: Penny gave a Sergeant-at-Arms report. 9 Hanover Rotarians in person, 1 visiting Rotarian and 3 guests.

**Happy/Sad Bucks:**

Sanjeev is happy because his son got Honors at his school

Canova is happy/sad. He is sad because he won’t be here next week due to a board meeting but happy because they are getting funding for a new school

Judson reported that Harvey is on the mend and getting better, but not well enough to attend meetings.

**Rotary Minute:**

Ken gave a Rotary Minute about April being Rotarian Magazine month. In this month’s issue there is article about Ukraine and about what RI is doing to support Ukraine with the RI Foundation creating an official channel for members around the world to contribute. Through June 30, they are matching donations and have generous grants for districts bordering Ukraine.

Yesterday, April 19 was 154th birthday of Paul Harris and can celebrate by giving to the Foundation or the Disaster relief fund.

**Announcements:**

Rotary District training, everyone on the Board should attend on April 30.

Rotary Night at the Diamond, May 1; Gates open at 12:30P with game time at 1:35P. $2 goes back to End Polio Now Foundation

Rotary Ukraine Giving – See the e-mail from Brenda – a match from Richmond Rotary Club up to $70,000.

Brenda will have a Shrimp & Suds Planning meeting after this meeting.

Check e-mail to see info about the Bylaw changes regarding meeting cadence. There will be 1st & 3rd Wednesday plus a social or community event on other days.

Kevin Smyth from Mechanicsville Rotary is here to talk about perhaps doing a blood drive where members and community can give blood. The Red Cross needs a space of about 1200 square feet to do a blood drive, but they need a minimum of 25 pints to make it worthwhile. He got a show of hands to see who was interested and some suggestions for location.

**Program:**

The guest today Kathy Bremaer from Grace Christian School. She has been 28 years in education. The school is the only secondary option for private education in Hanover County. They are from 6th - 12th grades and focuses on adolescents. They have been open 9 years and offer 19 competitive sports! Four grads have progressed to play college sports. Recently one has received a scholarship to play baseball! Academically, they have graduated 70 students so far, accepted to over 60 colleges. Demographically, they say they are a middle-class family school. The tuition is $8,100 for a high school year and $7,100 in middle school. The average class size is 21.

Their teachers invest in students academically and spiritually. There is a requirement to volunteer for 4 years to graduate as a way to develop servant leaders. They are partnering with many local organizations for the students to volunteers.

They started with 34 students in 2013. Today they have 226 students and a staff over 30. In February they broke ground on a new addition on their building at Grace Christian Church off Atlee Road with Hanover architects and contractors. 11 new classrooms, science, computer and STEM labs and a cafeteria.

They are fundraising to furnish and outfit the school. They are looking for donors and would like us to put them in touch with like-minded donors.

After Judson led the Club in the 4-Way Test, Brenda adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Michelle Nelms