

Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

Porta-Rota-Call

Date: February 17, 2021

by: Christy Klien

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by President Matt Semelbauer.

President Matt welcomed everyone to the meeting today.

The Four Way Test was recited.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Our invocation was by Ben Barber.

PROGRAM: KVCC Foundation; Linda Depta

Emily Turner introduced Linda Depta, the Director of KVCC Foundation. She has thirty-seven years of experience with television, radio, newspaper publishing. She currently serves as the Director of the Kalamazoo Valley Community College Foundation. Linda is very active in the community and has served on many community organization boards such as Junior League, United Way, and Salvation Army.

Linda shared a video about KVCC's 2020 response to the pandemic and the impact on the lives of their students.

The KVCC Foundation was established in 1980. The Foundation accepts unrestricted contributions and those designated for specific purposes, such as student tuition and equipment purchase. The Kalamazoo Valley Community College Foundation is an independent 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. They have a fifteen-member board, with our own Rotarian, Travis Grimwood, as President.

Linda shared that an individual who has a college education or the completion certificate program. A person who completes at least a two-year associate's degree can earn 1.5 million dollars more over a 40-year career than someone who does not complete an associate's degree.

Michigan is experiencing a shortfall of skilled and professional trade workers. Even with the new MIConnect program, not all students qualify for this type of program. KVCC offers one of the lowest tuition rates in the state, but many students can't afford to attend college without assistance. The Foundation is there to help!

This year they will be having their annual scholarship fundraising event virtually. The event is scheduled for May 13, and they are looking for table sponsors. The event provides student tuition scholarships.

To learn more about the Kalamazoo Valley Community College Foundation or to help support their efforts, please visit their website at www.kvcc.edu/foundation

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Be sure to add Portage Rotary Charities as your chosen non-profit this year! Amazon Smile Link - <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3353675>

- Payments are accepted through PayPal for Rotary items, you can find a PayPal quicklink at <http://www.portagerotary.org/>, or use your PayPal app using Rotaryclubofportage@gmail.com
- Virtual Auction Update – website has been updated. Please share our Facebook event.
- Super Bowl Winnings- contact Karen Foster

Happy birthday to Dan Melnik and Scott McGraw.
Happy anniversary to Gary Meyers.

Bob Borsos, Travis Grimwood, Marlene Camacho-Ochoa , Matt Semelbauer, Dick Hewitt, Paul Ballard, Art Roberts, and Jeannine Willacker were all happy today.

Wendell Pierce led us in Valentine's Trivia. Rotarians with the wrong answer were fined \$1.

Next week's program is Kori Jock with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm by President Matt Semelbauer.

Replay the Zoom meeting...

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/xZd2GzJp0e1qiME_tLbYSmboUlvjQYd0HrFMqnalFu-7d5FOTn26ngdl1w6Yqp6E.ZHULtO7c_KSCI529 Passcode: hX8m=\$%a



[Facebook link](#)

The Portage Rotary Club provides financial support for youth education, families in need and other local charitable causes. We are part of Rotary International. A service organization of business and professional leaders that provide humanitarian services and help build goodwill and peace in the world