

# Rotary Club of Portage Bulletin

## Porta-Rota-Call

Date: February 24, 2021

by: Christy Klien

The meeting was called to order at 12:01p.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.

### NOMINATIONS:

Nominations for the 2021-2022 Rotary Year:

Past President- Matt Semelbauer

President 21-22-Emily Turner

President Elect 22-23-Ben Barber

President Nominee-Joe Romeo

Secretary-Gina Molinari

Treasurer-Chris Cole

Directors term ending 6/30/23-Chris Cole, Erica McCulley

Directors term ending 6/30/22-Dick Hewitt, Kim Carr

Directors term ending 6/30/21-Roy Dangel, Mary Lou Wright

President Matt asked if there were any comments about the presented slate. No comments were made

Jose Santamari made the motion to nominate the Wendell Pierce supported the motion. There was discussion about the proper way to handle the nominations. Traditionally, the nominations are presented to the Club at a meeting in early December. The slate is to be published in the bulletin for two weeks for members' comments. The nominations will then be brought back to the Club to vote for approval. Bill Crown made the motion to close the nominations, post the nominations in the bulletin for two weeks, and bring back to the Club for approval. Jeannie Willacker supported the motion. The Club members approved the motion.

PROGRAM: Kori Jock with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Emily Turner introduced Kori Jock. Kori is the Director of Fund Development with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Kori asked Rotarians to raise their hands if they have been involved with her organizations over the years. Many hands were raised.

Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between children (Littles) and adults (Bigs). They serve Kalamazoo, Allegan, Calhoun, and Van Buren counties. Match a little (child) with a Big (adult). The goal is to maximize the Little's potential to succeed and thrive.

Kori share how their service model has changed because of COVID. The mentoring program had to change in March during the closures to virtual, outdoor meetings with masks and social distancing, and letters instead of in-person visits. Isolation was a concern during this time. The agency was checking in on their families and making sure they were getting the resources they needed, such as shelter, food, and educational assistance.

They also had to change their special events that help fund their services. Many of their events had to be canceled because of the pandemic. Kori shared information on Bowl for Kids' Sake: Cornhole Edition. Traditionally, the event is held in a bowling alley. This year they are taking it outside! They will be having a cornhole edition. The event will be held on August 20 and August 21, 2021 at Growler's Stadium. She challenged the Club to have Portage Rotary teams participate in this fun event. All money raised stays locally. The funds from Bowl for Kids' Sake is 10% of their budget. Their annual budget is 1 million dollars and a large portion of the budget is spent on personnel hours to support hundreds of families in the community.

Please visit the Big Brothers Big Sisters website, <https://www.bbbsmi.org/>, to learn more about their services and how you can help support their efforts.

President Matt thanked Kori for joining us today and sharing information about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Michigan.

President Matt welcomed our guest, Amy Moon.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Virtual Auction Update – Matt asked our club members to do one of the three items listed below (or all 3 or course!):
  - Invite your friends and family to 'like' our event: Go to our 'Rotary Club of Portage' page, click on 'Events' tab, you'll see our auction, then select 'Invite', if you're on your computer there is a 'Select All' option, then 'Send Invites', and you're on your way! Be sure to be sharing the event on your personal FB accounts a few times prior to the event!
  - Mail an auction flier to 10 of your friends/family with a small note asking them to participate
  - Call 10 of your friends or family and let them know about the event
- 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](mailto:Rotaryclubofportage@gmail.com)
- Super Bowl Winnings- contact Karen Foster

Happy birthday to Josh Goodlock and Mary Lou Wright.

Happy anniversary to Jim Pearson.

Jeannine Willacker, Randy Orwig, Dick Hewitt, Ben Barber, Jen Maynard, Shirley Johnson, Gina Molinari, Bill Crown, Mary Lou Wright, and Emily Turner were all happy today.

Wendell Pierce led us in US Presidents Trivia. Rotarians with the wrong answer were fined \$1.

Next week's program is Career Tech Opportunities at Butler Tech with Crissy Lauterbach.

Meeting adjourned at 12:57 pm by President Matt Semelbauer.

**Note: Changes to DACdb Bulletins: They changed the format for the template provided. The automatic email for the current Bulletin is not being sent. The Bulletins are posted on our Web Home Page under "Club Links". You can browse and read the list from there. Gary**



[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