

Rotary



Rotary Opens Opportunities

ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL

WEEKLY MEETING MINUTES

May 19 2021 – (Zoom 48)

ZOOMING: Hugh Graham, Mike Taylor, David Schulz, Mel Groom, Annie Holtby, Ann Harrison, Pat Duncan, Andy Glavac, Tamara Bennett, Erin Riseing, Carolyn Mullin, Bob Eamer, John Cappa, Paul Snack, Keith McConkey, Lance Wiebe, Jason Thompson, Kevin Vallier, Meghan McNaughton, Heather Scott, Gail Levay, and Paul Allen.

1. **Open meeting:** – Welcome to all and our two guests today, Erin Riseing of the Niagara Community Garden Network and Tamara Bennett of the Niagara United Way and The Rotary Club of Welland.

2. **Land Acknowledgement: Paul S.**

We begin this gathering by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis and Inuit people and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

3. **Toast: John**

To the Queen and Canada, To the Office of the President of United States, and To the President of Rotary International

4. **4-WAY TEST: Annie**

Of the things we think, say, or do
Is it the truth?
Is it fair to all concerned?
Will it build good will and better friendships?
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

5. **Invocation: John - Life**

Life is an opportunity, benefit from it.
Life is beauty, admire it.
Life is a dream, realize it.
Life is a challenge, meet it.
Life is a duty, complete it.
Life us a game, [lay it.
Life us a promise, fulfill it.
Life is sorrow, overcome it.
Life is a song, sing it.
Life is a struggle, accept it.
Life is a tragedy, confront it.
Life is an adventure, dare it.
Life is luck, make it.
Life is too precious, do not destroy it.
Life is life, fight for it. Mother Teresa.

6. President's Report/Correspondence/Announcements:

Spring Cleaning. Annie. The elevator at the Warehouse is running again and Friday 1-3:30 will be a Delivery Day. Very happy about this. We've had some great donations and I thank everyone who could make them. Because of Covid's Stay at Home and Elevator ups and downs, we're cutting it close holding to our already extended timelines. I'll let you know what's happening as soon as Warehouse can give us an answer. If you still have items, you can bring Friday afternoon.

I Canter. Hugh. The cheque for I-C.A.N.T.E.R. from the District has been received by Hugh/ It will be seed money for the grant this year – the desks and chairs for Women's Place.

TD Storage. Mel and Annie are going to Wellspring to check their basement possibilities for storage. This had been a suggestion from **Frank. Lance** is joining us. Annie will check out TD's shelving.

June's schedule. Hugh. There are 5 Wednesdays in June. We have a regular meeting on **June 2nd** – Diana Huson - Niagara Regional Councilor, Pelham, is our speaker. Her father just passed in case you'd like to send condolences.

June 5th is Great Lakes Watershed Clean Up.

June 12th Online Garage Sale PICKUP

June 19th I-C.A.N.T.E.R. to do photos

June 23rd evening meeting 1-1 ½ hours for Fireside Chat – there's a template from District we can use.

June 30th Last day of the Rotary year falls on a Wednesday. Some in-person socializing at Peace Park? BYOF or possibly Country Boys who were at Farmer's Market could do a reasonable charcuterie for those attending. Something to talk about

7. Speaker: Erin Riseing – Community Gardens

Introduction: Mel

Erin Riseing is the Program Coordinator for the Niagara Community Garden Network, a program under United Way Niagara. For over 20 years, Erin has been an avid gardener and educator for people of all ages to facilitate learning about the natural environment and health. Erin has a B.A. in Sociology and Cultural Anthropology and formerly practiced as a licensed Naturopathic Doctor. She moved away from her practice to work directly with people in community to advocate for making healthy food accessible for all.

Presentation: [Download Attachment](#)

Tamara, did you want to say anything right now?

Tamara. I'm happy to be here to support Erin.

Mike Youth Resources started a community garden program about 5 years ago sponsored by Fonthill Rotary Club. There were 3 gardens, 2 at the YRN site and 1 at Pelham Cares with the produce donated to Pelham Cares. The garden at Pelham Cares was too difficult to maintain due to exposure to deer & other wildlife. Last year we expanded the gardens at our 2nd site on South Pelham and have 2 additional enormous plots. Because of clients/confidentiality, we are unable to permit public access to the community gardens but all gardens are managed with staff and clients as a life skill learning program continue to support Pelham Cares.

Thanks: Hugh. Thanks Erin and Tamara for being here. A wonderful presentation! Our Speaker Thank You goes to the Pelham Library in your name as Literacy is one of our areas of support.

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8. **Birthdays:** Tia (May 11); Heather (May 26); John (May 30)
Rotary Anniversaries: Angela (May 16, 2003); Peter (May 16, 2002)
9. **Rotary Moment: Paul S.** Paul shared the video 'Rotary – Make a World of Difference' Excellent choice. 'Join Rotary & Make a Difference.'
10. **Happy Loonies: Paul S.**

Tamara. Her daughter has moved to Denver. She's happy that she's settling in.

Hugh. Daughter and Hubby in Toronto, 40, are registered for vaccination and in St Catharines, other daughter has hers. All are covered!

Mike. Eli finished 1st Year University in his bedroom. We're proud of what he's accomplished. He's also moving out into his own apartment for 2nd year.

Pat. Oldest granddaughter just had her 13th birthday. Her 2nd Lockdown Birthday.

Annie. Thanks, Erin. Inspiring presentation! I'm just enjoying getting going in our communal garden at home.

Mel. Happy that the United Way for Period Plus is happening. We're gathering feminine products. If you're at the pharmacy, throw them in the available bucket. You can also leave on Mel's front porch.

Bob. Happy to be a Rotarian. Happy to still be here.

Ann. Got her kids registered for vaccination. 24 year old son who lived with them all year, is moving back to Toronto.

Lance. Canada Day meeting last week – 7 activities this year with the DriveBy Parade hopefully being one of them. We'll need to figure out what we're going to do.

John. Started doing yard work and thought, why not do a veggie garden? He pulled out the perennial flowers. He'll be planting this week and will be looking for where to donate that extra food.

Carolyn. Gardening again this season too. I'm happy both girls are working. Tess got her first shot yesterday (Tuesday) and Carolyn and Alex are going tomorrow (Thursday).

Heather. There were issues with the garage floor. Garage Kings came and looked. Heather and Glen had to remove everything, painted wall. Then Garage King came and did the floor. They were polite, professional, did stellar work. Possibly the nicest room in the house. 😊

Keith. First weekend at the trailer! To get the kids outside was amazing.

Meghan. Happy because she was vaccinated last Wednesday. Alex gets his Saturday. Feels good. Sounds like people are stepping up.

Troy. Along the garden theme, we have 4x8' raised beds for gardening. Seed is in. Hopefully a good harvest!

Jason. Son 13 is more helpful in the garden this year.

Paul A. Thanks, Erin and Tamara. Fantastic what's been done! Our youngest got the vaccination – we're all done. Thanks for Rotarians who are working in the clinics. I won't mention by name.

Paul S. Thanks, Erin. Thanks, Tamara.

Hugh. Great Club assembly. The District did a great job!
11. **Action items:** Check out Wellspring Basement for our 'Supplies' **Action: Mel, Annie Lance**
Check out TD Shelves for storing Supplies elsewhere. **Action: Annie**
Set up Fireside Chat. **Action: Hugh**