

Rotary Club of Red Hook, New York Weekly Bulletin SERVICE ABOVE SELFd August 18, 2020 <u>http://www.redhookrotaryclub.org/</u> www.facebook.com/RedHookRotaryClub

Marking the 22nd week of "stay at home" meetings required by the coronavirus outbreak, Jen Van Voorhis opened the "zoom" meeting at 8am. Thirteen Rotarians and three guests from the Red Hook Library – Amy Smith. Dawn Jardine and Maryelise Blundell attended the meeting. Jen Van Voorhis presided, leading off the meeting with the pledge and the Rotary 4-way test.



Photo screen shot taken by photographer and Rotarian, Fred Cartier. Attendees by row from top left to bottom right are: Bud Weaver, Fred Cartier, Amy Smith (speaker), Tim Lynch, Dawn Jardine (RH Library), Susan Simon, Dave Wright, Carl Dowden, Jen Van Voorhis, Rob Latimer, Maryelisa Blundell (RH Library), Jonah Triebwasser, Rebecca Kent, Chris Chale, and Linda Greenblatt. Susan Ezrati missed the photo, but was there.

Our speaker was Amy Smith who outlined the Library's effort to create public internet access at the Red Hook Rec Park. In summary, she told us that the Library has

negotiated a project to build the hardware and connections for broadband access to the internet at the Rec Park. The cost of the project is as follows:

Hardware from Meraki/ Cisco Qty Item 1 Wireless Access Point 2 Antenna (\$349 each)	\$ 2249.00 \$ 698.00
Software License from Meraki/ Cisco Qty Item 1-3 yr Outdoor Wifi AP license Manufacturer's Discounts	\$ 300.00 \$ - 974.10
Total for Hardware & Software license	\$ 2272.9
1 GB Service from Spectrum Qty Item 12 Monthly Internet Connection (\$249.99 per month)	\$2,999.88
Total Cost for first year of service	\$5,272.78

The screenshot below shows where the hardware will be located.



In a follow up to the meeting, Amy provided the following information:

There is a federal grant pending for the library, which includes expansion of public internet access through the village and would eventually extend all the way up to the Elmendorf. That area will be covered by a different project.

The Rec Park was chosen in part because it isn't in the village. If someone needs internet access in the village, the library is already an option. The Rec Park was chosen as a second location because it is a municipality-owned property, which ensures public access and it's free and open to the public in daylight. Few other locations combine those things.

Bard students will not benefit from this service because Bard campus has far faster internet service and many options for students looking to work indoors or outdoors on

campus. Most of the students who live off campus don't live in the neighborhoods around the Rec Park, so, they would need to travel for reliable internet access, in which case they're more likely to go to campus where it is faster.

In the research for this project, I spoke at length with the Chief Information Officer at Bard and also with CCE. Bard is willing to be another location for an access point. That isn't a current priority since the area of the RH Community that an access point on campus would benefit is far smaller and there is no public space akin to the pavilion at the Rec Park with its shelter and tables.

Rotary will be able to place a plaque on the landing page that every user can see. In addition, we are planning to pitch the project for an article in the Northern Dutchess News as it is a great example of a community-based organizations working together to help address the digital divide.

Next Club meeting: August 25, 2020 at 8am by Zoom. Club members are encouraged to contact Jen Van Voorhis with speaker suggestions for our zoom meetings.



Red Hook Rotary Club seeks host families for our inbound youth exchange students. Watch this spot for further information. Contact Chris Chale with volunteer families

Radio Rotary

This weekend on RadioRotary: Rescuing Animals

Tune in to the award-winning RadioRotary on Sunday, August 23rd at 6:25 a.m. (on WBPM 92.9 FM or http:// <u>www.wbpmfm.com/</u>) and at 9:25 a.m. (on WGHQ 920AM and 92.5FM, WBNR 1260AM and 96.5FM and WLNA 1420 or <u>http://www.realcountryhv.com/</u>) when we talk with Nicole Juchem about the rescue work of the Animal Farm Foundation.

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