



Rotary Club of Red Hook, New York

Weekly Bulletin

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

March 16, 2021

<http://www.redhookrotaryclub.org/>

www.facebook.com/RedHookRotaryClub

Marking the 53rd week of “stay at home” meetings required by the coronavirus outbreak, Jennifer Van Voorhis called the Zoom meeting to order at 8 am. Twelve club members attended along with our guest speaker, Tivoli Fire Chief Marc Hildebrandt and our frequent guest/member, Gwen McCann. Jen led the meeting off with the pledge of allegiance and the Rotary 4-way test. Fred Cartier offered a blessing to start the meeting.



Screenshot from the zoom meeting provided by Fred Cartier. Pictured is Tivoli Fire Chief, Marc Hildenbrand. The background is a sketch of what the Tivoli Firehouse would look like if the desired expansion is achieved.

Jonah reported that Radio Rotary this weekend will feature the Newburgh club and a tribute to women (suitable for Women’s month). Susan Simon and Jen reported that this month’s Fifth Tuesday, March 30, 2021 will be an evening meeting. Members are asked to e-mail a baby photo of themselves for an “identification” test that will be

featured at the event. Linda updated us on the applications for RYLA and scholarships, which will take place this year. She urged us to urge Red Hook students to apply. Peggy Dinofrio will be the point person for the applications at Red Hook High School. Apple Blossom has been formally cancelled again this year. An excellent statement about the need to do so has been posted on the Rotary Club Facebook page. Chris Chale was thanked for her excellent drafting of the statement. Dave assured us that some pandemic appropriate activities are being planned instead of the usual outdoor festival, including the purchase and raffling of gift cards for local restaurants and businesses. The Directory will be delayed until the COTY awards dinner in the fall.

Other activities, including the annual spring cleanup of roads and byways and tree planting, were considered. We will follow up on these issues at the next meeting.

Susan Ezrati then introduced Marc Hildebrand, Tivoli's Fire Chief, noting that he had graciously accepted the Rotary gift of masks a few weeks earlier and provided a photo opportunity for the presentation by inviting Rotary to a training activity that the department undertakes weekly at the former St. Sylvia's church in Tivoli. Marc reported that Tivoli's Fire Department now boasts 50 active members and 20 interior fighters, making it the largest department in the northeast region of Dutchess County. He noted that part of the spur to the growth was a fire that took place at Tivoli's Firehouse over two years ago. That fire nearly destroyed the existing structure, required a temporary structure be placed in the municipal lot, and took a year and a half to repair. It also increased interest in the Fire Company, elicited new volunteers (doubled the size of the company), spurred the Village and the Fire Company to develop a design for a new, improved and expanded firehouse and built enthusiasm for the company. The proposed new structure nearly doubles the size of the building, provides essential improvements, including showers, emergency shelter, community space and needed bay expansion to house some historic fire equipment that is currently stored elsewhere and some new equipment that will enhance the company's capacity transport firefighters and effectively meet emergencies. The design was developed for the fire company and the Village by Peter Sweeney, a local architect. It not only meets the company's needs, but also is designed to fit appropriately into the Village's historic overlay district and within the Historic Landmark District within which the Village is located.

Club members asked Marc about other equipment needs that the Fire Company had and what financial support the Town and Village provided to the company. We asked to be kept abreast of the progress on the project.

The meeting was adjourned at 9am.

Radio Rotary

Next weekend on RadioRotary: Watch the website for further information.

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See our video at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rzF-3SU-UA>