

## City of Lake Rotary Club

Weekly Club Meeting Minutes – Grant Robinson

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

Sheila Gothmann greeted us.

Mark Labovitz served with Dan Springman at the front desk.

President Elect Bill Klein rang the bell at 7:30 to open our meeting and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Patrick Burns gave both a heartfelt and comedic reflection.

Russ Michaletz had our guest speaker Khawar Nasim, Consulate General of Canada in Minneapolis, lead us in singing “O Canada”.

Diann Moeller welcomed guests and visiting Rotarians.

- John Vandermyde introduced his guest Bill Jackson with Engineers Without Borders.
- Dick Hall introduced his fellow co-worker at JP Morgan Christiane Dolabella.
- Dean Sanberg introduced his wife Judge Kathleen Sanberg.
- Terryl Brumm, President and CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of the Twin Cities, introduced herself and shared she has her application in for membership with our club.

Jim Nelson proudly announced that our very own Russ Michaletz has been elected to serve as District Governor for District 5950 in 2019-2020.

Bob Minish drew the names of Alex Dabelstein and Jonathan Pyne as winners of the Polio Plus Fundraiser Drive. Bob also shared our club’s success in raising funds for Polio Plus this year and the generous memorials given in Dick Parrish’s name.

Blake Shelton walked the mic in collecting Happy Bucks from our many happy Rotarians.

Tom Tamura was happy to announce that our next foreign exchange student will be coming to us from Faroe Islands and asked to connect with him if interested in being a host family next year.

Dead Sanberg served as Day Chair sharing his claim to fame in being on the game show Strike it Rich with his wife in the 1980s and his passion and involvement in his scuba diving club whose motto is “Surface Above Self”.

Our speaker for the day was Khawar Nasim, Consulate General of Canada in Minneapolis. Recently receiving his post in August of 2016, Consul General Nasim shared that he along with his wife and two children have settled in nicely in Minnesota. Consul General Nasim spoke on the following:

- Strong friendship and partnership that Canada and the US share.
- Tragedy of the recent shooting at the mosque in Quebec City
- Changes with new US administration and relationship with Canada put into question relating to borders, trade, etc.
- Canada has the second largest land expanse in the world for its 36 million citizens.

- Canada and the United States trade 2 billion in goods every day.
- Canada is the United States largest trading partner.
- Both Canada and President Trump agree on growing the middle class.
- Since it's signing, NAFTA has quadrupled the trade between the US and Canada.
- Perplexed at negativity toward NAFTA from US administration.
- 9 Million jobs in the US depend on trade with Canada.

President Elect Bill Klein rang the bell to close our meeting at 8:33.

Don't miss out on our program next week, February 8<sup>th</sup>, where we'll hear from Margaret Anderson Kelliher, President and CEO of Minnesota High Tech Association, speaking with us on Building Minnesota's Workforce and a Culture of Innovation.