



Weekly Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 22, 2017

Overall Comments:

• Our meeting this week took place in the main dining room of the Minneapolis Club, our home base. We enjoyed a hot breakfast this morning.

Meeting Details:

- President Elect **Brock Ray** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Last minute draftee **John Groth** provided today's reflection. He inspired us with his recollection of his 40+ year as a Rotarian.
- **Ellen Archibald** led us in today's song a rousing version of Row, Row, Row Your Boat in honor of the new Gophers football coach, P.J. Fleck.

President's Comments and General Meeting Announcements:

- **Diane Moeller** introduced visiting Rotarians and guests.
- **Dean Sanberg** reminded us of upcoming Diversity Task Force and Peer Roundtable meetings and the Dunwoody Mock Interviews on 4/5/17.
- **Maria Bavender** reminded us of the annual COL party March 10th at Cooper in the West End.

Vocational/Happy Bucks:

- **Brock Ray** inducted THREE new members: **Jeff Meacham, Allison Vos**, and **Terryl Brumm**.
- **Doug Schmitt**, in rare possession of a folding dollar, conducted Happy Bucks.

Program/Speaker:

- **Ken Stone**, Auburn grad, served as today's fill-in Day Chair.
- The first speaker today was **Stela Center**, Director of Development & Fund Raising for the Wallin Education Partners. Win Wallin was a long term executive/CEO with Pillsbury and later Medtronic.
- Stela told us her story of emigrating from Bosnia not knowing a word of English. Her evolution to her present situation, college grad with a master's degree and a job with NO sign of an accent. She introduced the Executive Director of Wallin Education Partners, **Susan Basil King**.
- Dr. King told us about the progress of WEP in its mission to provide educations to those who otherwise would not be able to attend college.
- Students are paired with individual donors who contribute \$10,000 annually for four years to enable the students to get their education and become independent.
- Each student is provided with an advisor to help them with stumbling blocks and keep them on track to graduation. The individual donors stay in touch with the student they are supporting and monitor their progress.

• The program has been in existence for 25 years, has assisted 4,000 students and the program boasts a 92% over all graduation rate.

Next Week's Program:

• New member **Terryl Brumm**, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities is next week's speaker.

The meeting was adjourned with a ring of the bell by President Elect Brock at 8:30am

Reporter: Blake Shelton