

Minutes of the 2.21.2023 Rotary Meeting

President Lyla Berg called the February 21, 2023, meeting of the Rotary Club of Honolulu to order at twelve noon. After asking for additional volunteer song leaders, **Kent Reinker** led the group in the singing of “America the Beautiful.” **Rob Hale** led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave an inspiration centered on the resurrection of Centennial Park after an African snail attack, which denuded and messed much of the landscaping. The resurrection was accomplished by a wonderful group of volunteers just prior to the visit of our Kyoto sister club. He thanked those volunteers. P Lyla introduced the many visitors who included a couple from Zagreb, Croatia. **Rich Proctor** announced the upcoming Pau Hana Event at Dave and Buster’s on March 2 that will be in lieu of a February 28 meeting and will serve as a Hui Ho’owali meeting for those who need a badge color change, All are invited. He also described our club’s 17-year participation in the ‘Olelo video contest. RCOH judges the Peace-Making portion of the contest. He asked for volunteers to judge.

After a time of fellowship, **Samantha Haas** introduced Kam Napier, the speaker for the day. He is the current editor of Pacific Business News and former editor of Honolulu Magazine. He began by introducing by name the small PBN staff of 3 editors and 3 reporters and explained their portion of the magazine’s responsibilities. PBN’s email/internet site keeps readers up to date of what is happening in the business world and the print editions do more in-depth coverage of local business issues and, of course, the weekly lists. After describing the nature and purpose of PBN, he continued with an interesting and compelling talk about media in general. He discussed the bias of media and that basically all media has a bias. PBN’s bias is business related and clearly pro-capitalism. He discussed non-profit media like Civil Beat and Honolulu Public Radio. He talked about the demise of print newspapers and attributed it to the creation of Craig’s List, which undercut the significant prior support of selling want ads. At the close of his talk, prior to the Q & A, he encouraged people to read widely and to consider whether we’re taking in opinions or facts.

After thanking Mr. Napier, Lyla introduced and exchanged club flags with the couple from Zagreb, Croatia, Ivana and Milan Vukadinovic. They each spoke briefly about their clubs (they belong to different clubs) and described how the clubs were able to resume after WWII and after Covid. P Lyla’s quote of the week was from Pablo Picasso, who said “The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.” **PP Bub Wo** and P Lyla led the group in the singing of “Hawaii Aloha”. The meeting was adjourned.

Nancy White, Scribe