

October 23, 2023

## Meeting Minutes

**President Bill Keogh** rang the bell and called the meeting to order.

**Faye Hargrove** led us in the Pledge and Invocation.

**Gould Barrett** gave the Sunshine Report today.

**Matt Barrett** called on club members to introduce their guest in attendance today.

**Interact Students** from Richmond Academy and Davison Fine Arts introduced themselves.

**Paul Harris Fellows - None**

### CART

**President Bill** asked everyone to contribute to the blue buckets on the tables. You may give online at mycartfund.org. Login credentials are the same as DACDB. Also, please complete our club's Google form to sign up to be a Cart Challenger

**New Members:** **Paul Dainer** introduced our newest members, **Rev. Henry Holt** and **Rebecca Sylvester**. Please welcome them to the club.

### Upcoming Club Programs and Events

- World Polio Day – October 24th
- New Member Orientation Day – October 24th, 4:30 pm
- Ronnie Kirtz (P&Z Director, Grovetown) – October 30th
- District Governor, Felix Smith – November 6th
- Veterans Day Program – November 11th
- Rotary International Convention, Jekyll Island, GA - April 26 – 28, 2024

**October 24** is also **World Polio Day**, a global day to raise awareness and resources for the worldwide effort to eradicate polio. The eradication of polio has been a Rotary goal since 1978, and the disease is closer to eradication every year. Please support Rotary's efforts if you can by either donating at myrotary.org or through a collection we will be taking up at the Club at that week's meeting. Every bit helps!

**New member orientation** will take place on Tuesday, October 24, at 4:30. The location is Enterprise Mill. If you are a "red badge," this is your opportunity to complete your introductory phase of the Rotary journey. If you have any questions, please contact Herb Upton (706.724.8122).

### Rotary Club of Augusta's Signature Fundraiser.

**Dr. Mac Bowman** – Founder, The Horizon Foundation, **De Pierce**- CEO, Horizon Foundation came forward and introduced this year's recipient **Cliff Richards**, President/CEO of the **Hale House Foundation**. The Hale Foundation's mission is to serve people suffering from substance abuse regardless of age, race, religion, ethnicity, or national origin. Our overall objective is to help individuals recover from alcohol and drug abuse and return them to society as productive members. Tickets will be available at the next meeting.

### Today's Program

**Ed Presnell** introduced our guest speakers, **Ryan Mahoney** and **Cedric Johnson** with Augusta Entertainment Complex. Ryan discussed the economic impact of a new arena to replace the current James Brown Arena which was built in 1979. Expansion would include 10,500 seats, 12 Luxury suites and boxes, Premium Club space, Grand lobby connecting Bell Auditorium, and 4.5 acres of public plazas and green space. C-SPLOST is for a single project and estimated build time is 30 months. The proposed temporary half-penny sales tax is estimated to help create 600 new and permanent jobs in Augusta. Forty percent of the funding is expected to be paid by visitors.

### Voting Information

- **Oct 10: Last Day of Voter registration**
- **Oct 16: Advanced in-person voting begins**
- **Oct 21 & 28: Saturday Early voting**
- **Oct 27: Last day to request absentee ballot**
- **Nov 7: Election Day**

**President Bill** led us in the four-way test and then adjourned the meeting.