

March 03, 2025 Editarian: Amy Remmert

Today's meeting was called to order by President Taylor Huey, leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Invocation:** Given by Rotarian Dan Hartlieb.

Arts News: Rotarian Troy Thrash gave reminding us that we are only 17 days away from the spring equinox. So much happening in the arts world so check it out on the Arts Councill Website or at our Rotary Website.

Foundation Minute: There are two opportunities to attend grant seminars which are essential for being able to apply for Rotary District grants. We need two individuals to register. Please consider. Also, Rotary is for Reading is Reading is on the Horizon. Registration will be available soon.

Announcements:

- River Cleanup is scheduled for May 17. More to come
- Satellite Club Meeting scheduled for March 11
- Red Rose submissions are due by March 31
- There's still time to register for the Rotary International Conference in Calgary

New Member Introduction: Erin Hahn is from St. Joseph Michigan. Her dad was a Berrian County Rotary Member and Erin was involved in the Interact Club in High School. She also did work in the Dominican Republic. She works in Social Media and is a free lancer bring her expertise to the City of Kalamazoo Government.

Happy Bucks:

- Rhasheda Shepherd and Bruce Justin both gave happy bucks for the acknowledgement with get well cards during their medical recovery.
- Nick Boyd was happy about the upcoming Dominican Republic Interact Club trip
- Sid Ellis was happy to announce his new job at Ministry with Community as Executive Director.
- Steve Duisterhof reminded us of the message of welcome to immigrants on the Statue of Liberty
- Bill Dimond gave a Falicitous Fin For all the good works
- Jack Hopkins also expressed thanks for the get well card for his wife.
- Keith Mumma expressed thanks for the help with meals during their care for their daughter.
- Don Flesche celebrated his induction into the Non-Athletic Hall of Fame in St. Louis for his work in Education
- Marvinette Woodley-Penn celebrated the production of "Parade" at the Civic and the great conversation after the performance.
- Andy Latham suggested formulating a statement from Rotary regarding national issues.

Program: Christina Anderson from the City of Kalamazoo is the director of Community Engagement and received a 2018 Leadership Award. Christina reported that the Community Conversation through the years 2015 – 2017 had many recommendations for the City and resulted in a Master Plan which emphasized shared prosperity and a connected city. The new plan for 2022 through 2035 is going to be working forward from where the earlier plan left off. In review, what went wrong, where were the successes and what creates a "Happy City". Also, part of the plan involves ways to reach people in different modes.

The City will engage in "Call to Action" meetings from March through May 2025 with focus groups and online surveys. Stay in the know by visiting www.imaginekalamazoo.com