

Today's meeting was called to order by President Taylor Huie at 12:15 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Invocation: Rotarian Sid Ellis offered the invocation.

A short report was given on the progress of the Peace Pole. Location is still being worked out but potentially at Verburg Park. Languages to be inscribed are still being determined.

Arts News was presented by Rotarian Bob Miller:

Announcements:

1. Nominations for open board positions are still being taken. Elections will take place soon.
2. Satellite Club will elect its new Chairperson on Dec 9th
3. 'Adopt a Family' program prepared 11 baskets for needy families.
4. We still need volunteers for the Salvation Army's Bell Ringing donation drive.

The Program:

Mike Huey from the St Joseph/Benton Harbor Club made a presentation on the importance of Membership, recruitment and retention. In order to continue doing the good work of Rotary, we must grow. Members come and go depending on life challenges, and career changes. It is important to seek out new members with a passion for the work that Rotary does.

Important points are:

1. The club needs to change to the environment and grow
2. Know who you want to attract
3. Organize for growth by including members in the growth process and keep growth on the forefront.
4. It's important to ASK! If you see someone who seems to show interest. Ask them to attend a meeting.
5. Keep members engaged in Rotary. Keep telling or sharing the story of Rotary.
6. Lower barriers to joining. Restructuring dues might be an example.
7. Stay of the ahead of the game and stay informed about what Rotary does.
8. Focus on retention. Why are members leaving?

Thanks to Mike Huey, (father of Taylor Huey) we have been given some food for thought.