

Rotary Minutes
January 23, 2017

President Bryan Zocher presided over the meeting, and the National Anthem was led by John Dilworth at the piano. Invocation was led by Nathan Dannison.

D. Terry Williams presented the art news which included Classics Uncorked and many more activities around our community. Visit www.kalamazooart.org for more information

Guests: Rob Williams introduced Susan Rush; Susan Sondag introduced; Jared VanderWheele, and Nathan introduced Sara Schwitt.

Songs were led by Tim and John. Tim had a lot of material to work with when it comes to animals - in honor of our Veterinarian speaker. Because Tim is a child of the 70's, he remembers much. Songs about animals included, Wild Horses by the Rolling Stones, A Horse with no name by America, Crocodile Rock by Elton John, Dead Skunk by Loudon, Cats in the Cradle by Harry Chapin, and the list goes on and on. However, a favorite of his was - How Much is That Doggie in the Window - which did not have hidden meanings and was a favorite of kids of all ages. So we sang it beautifully - I must say.

Membership minutes: Mary Zoeller announced that next week is "Fifth Monday" Monday. So Mary discovered that Brian Kaufman has been in Rotary thirteen years. Having survived membership that long, she asked Rotarians to stand if they have been members 1-10 year; 10-20 then over 20

Dan Hartlieb announced that he needs help with table hosts. He will train and promises that you would only do no more than 1 week a month. Contact Dan to volunteer. Or see him next Monday.

President Bryan had great training at PETS (President Elect Training) and learned that sometimes it's appropriate to send a "Stern" message, There are rules about "No solicitation" without prior of approval. So PLEASE - no Non Rotary paper on the tables.

Happy Bucks: Michelle Karpinski's son is going to Patagonia on a Rotary Exchange and Michelle is convinced that hosting is better than sending. Sheri Bells daughter celebrated her 18th birthday, participated in the woman's march in Lansing and while there registered to vote all on one day. Dan Hartlieb: Twin daughters - graduated a daughter from UM and has her dream job, the second going to DC to look for work. Rick Briscoe had the honor of having a daughter to go to DC on Saturday - and on World Polio Day our club had an awesome showing of donations. However, we have had slow activity to the RI Foundation on annual donations. He had made a commitment to match donation to Rotary Foundation between now and June 30th.

PROGRAM: Assistant Governor Luke Kujacski introduced today's speaker. Dr. Darrell Great House will speak about the human side of animals. He is 1991 graduate of University of Illinois in Veterinary Medicine. The Connection - Darrell Great House, Veterinarian Lakeview Animal Hospital. He Learning a lot about animals physiology but it took the daily work in the clinics that taught him the most about the connection between pets and their owners.

Overwhelmed by all the knowledge he gained in school and in the labs, it would take an average of 3-5 years to know which treatment options are best or appropriate. He told the story of an 11 year old German Shepherd. The girl had a hard time getting up, was weak from her illness, and hard time breathing. The diagnosis was heart wrenching. It was a massive sarcoma. There really was only one option and the family knew it. They made a decision to put her to sleep. He knew what to do. But what he didn't expect was what happened next. A deeply emotional moment for the couple that connected the past death of their grandson with the dog they so dearly loved. He realized that he was not just taking care of the dog but the families who are so connected to their pet.

The dog was the first animal to be domesticated and become a part of our lives. They began, as wild animals, hanging around communities more than 7,000 years ago and slowly integrating with humans. In Russia, dogs were known to have been buried in cemeteries and they were even know to have been treated for injuries like broken bones.

Pets play such an integral part in our lives They have adapted to our world and they show unconditional acceptance for who we are. Dr. Great House has been writing down many of his stories about the things he has seen and experienced over the years as a vet. Hopefully he'll someday be able to publish his stories for others to read.