

Rotary Club of Kalamazoo  
Meeting minutes  
June 19, 2017  
Editarian – Steve Springsdorf

Meeting was called to order by President Bryan Zocher. The club sang the Star Spangled Banner accompanied by John Dillworth . Invocation by Steve Charnley.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests: President Bryan asked all guests to stand to be recognized as there were too many to be recognized individually.

Songs: John played and the club sang the Bronco Fight Song in honor of our Red Rose Awardee.

**Announcements:** President Bryan shared thoughts from the Rotary International Convention focusing on the final irradiation of polio. He mentioned that Rotary will also be focusing on the irradiation of human trafficking across the globe.

Rob Peterson, on behalf of Rotary Charities, presented a check to Dan Stout, band director, to support Kalamazoo Central Marching Band. They are using the funds to renovate their trailer for instrument transport. They have about 150-160 students participating each year. The program was started in 1906.

Happy bucks were collected, \$111. There were many generous happy people.

**Program:** Jeff Murphy shared the meaning and history of the annual Red Rose award. Jeff introduced our past recipients, the first among equals. He also introduced the guests of our honorees. Our 2017 Red Rose award was presented to Tim and Joy Light. President Bryan began the introductions Tim and Joy. Sherri Thomas-Cloud and Rosemary Gardner, current and past CEO of Family and Children Services, shared their perspective on how the Lights have impacted the community, highlighting their support for the work of Family and Children Services. Dan Gustin, Director of Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, focused on Joy and Tim's impact on the arts in our community. Final remarks were shared by Pam Kingery, CEO Community In Schools. All speakers emphasized their long term perspective on issues as well as how they made others think more deeply about the issues they were trying to solve or address.

President Bryan presented the Red Rose award. Joy expressed her appreciation to others in the community for their support in the area of the arts and other areas of concern to her. Tim reemphasized that Joy truly deserved the Red Rose award. He closed by pointing out there are two Kalamazoo's. The Kalamazoo that has high levels of arts, culture, philanthropy and volunteerism is a leader in the country. The other Kalamazoo is in poverty, largely minority, with higher levels of mortality. He pointed out it is a long term commitment, but we have an opportunity to bring these together if we are bold and are willing to extend ourselves, recognize the problems and address them honestly. Tim and Joy Light received another standing ovation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.