



The Navigator

The Exchange Club of Greater Newburyport

P.O. Box 31, Newburyport, MA 01950

Meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Starboard Galley

April 18, 2020

www.exchangeclubofgreaternewburyport.org

President-Erin Fournier, Secretary-Stuart Deane, Treasurer-Barbara Griffith, President Elect-Jane Collins
Newsletter Editor-Stuart Deane

Corona virus forces first virtual club meeting

By Stuart Deane

With the threat of the corona virus pandemic forcing the cancellations of our Starboard Galley dinner meetings for the foreseeable future, club members logged onto Zoom for a trial run at the first of our weekly Wednesday meetings at 6 p.m.

While this took some getting used to due to the inexperience of most members, we eventually got down to business.

Old Business

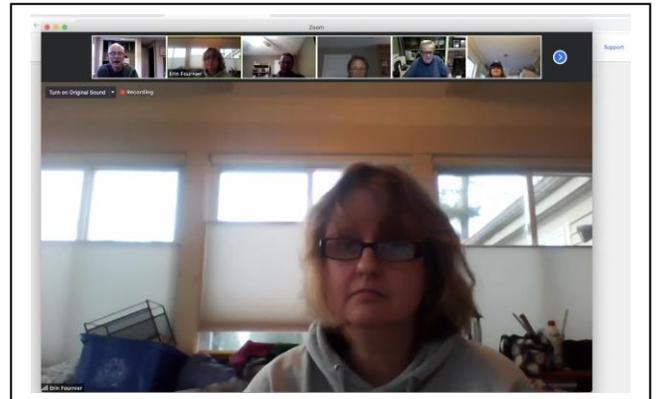
Treasurer Barbara Griffith noted that our check for \$2,500 had been sent and received by the Michael B. Christensen Family and Community Support Center.

Replied the center director, Maryann Connor: "I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the Newburyport Exchange Club for their generous donation of \$2,500 to assist our families in direct support during this pandemic. Please know that these dollars will be utilized to support our families in their needs, from food, to diapers and other items.

"Today we will be partnering with GLCAC food pantry and distributing an estimated 150 bags of food to families in need. Each family will also be receiving literature from the National Exchange Club on 'Tips for Self-care, Tantrums and Computer Safety.' We recognize that as families are sheltering place we want to support them. To all those on this email please remember you can always refer families directly to us for support. Please use my cellphone.

"Thank you. Thank you. Thank you."

Also of note, a check for \$500 has been sent to the Our Neighbors Table food bank to



Virtual. Erin Fournier, Steve DiCamillo., Stu Deane, Jim Noyes, Jane Collins, Mike Viccaro, Mary Sortal, Joe Murphy, Barbara Griffith and Steve Chanin join the discussion.

assist those in need during the crisis. Members have the option of paying the reduced April meals-only dues of \$25 to the club to offset the cost to the Operations budget, but this is voluntary. District and National dues have been waived for the time being.

New Business

Secretary Stu Deane is assembling a slate of officers for the 2020-21 year under President Jane Collins. Steve DiCamillo has stepped up to accept the President-Elect position, but we still need a Treasurer to replace the "retiring" Barbara

Griffith. Attached is a list of duties from the club handbook.

We also need three new two-year Board of Directors members. Steve Chanin has volunteered to serve, and two veterans will serve if needed, but we would like to see our newer members become active in these roles. All members are always welcome at any Board meetings.

As for future projects, we have already cancelled a Salvation Army dinner and our “Blue Ribbon” display around Market Square to raise awareness for the prevention of child abuse. The May District convention has been cancelled.

Also in doubt, at least on-schedule, are the updating of the Nock Middle School “Freedom Shrine,” the Derek Hines Flag Day road race, the presentation of our annual college scholarships and even our installation ceremony.

As for “Kids’ Day in the Park” during Yankee Homecoming, event vice-president Jason Lacroix is quoted in the April 16 *Daily News* as saying, “July 25 is a long way off. We think it is a little pre-emptive to cancel it right now. We’re staying very fluid,” adding that even if run, the week’s festivities might be reduced due to the current financial crisis for local sponsors.

However, local Board of Health member, Dr. Robert Slocum, commented in the same article: “The probability is low, but I suppose if you get to the point where there’s a big decline in cases and we’re able to test rapidly and really suppress the spread in the community... I think it’s unlikely that any of this will occur, but I don’t know that it’s completely out of the realm of possibility.”

Finally, next September’s “Field of Honor” (see photos on right) is also in jeopardy, but chair Joe Murphy reports that flags have been ordered and paid for, though they may end up being stored for the following year.

One alternative suggestion was to set up a smaller version of the “Field,” without a ceremony, to honor those who are serving during the current pandemic --- medical, fire and police, military and such support personnel as those in the food industry.

Schedule

Until further notice, we will be staying in touch each Wednesday at 6 p.m. on Zoom. President Erin Fournier will email the link, and members may click in and follow the “join the meeting” button.



“Unity in Service”

Treasurer's Duties

The treasurer keeps the financial books, including collecting dues, paying bills and depositing receipts, paying District and National dues, preparing a financial report each month for the Board of Directors, and filing the annual income tax form.

Steps

1. Dues statements, whether hardcopy or electronic, are mailed or delivered monthly to each member. Some pay monthly, some pay quarterly, and some have even paid in advance yearly. The treasurer is responsible for keeping the Board aware of any delinquencies.
2. Bills are paid for such matters as meal costs (currently \$12.50 per person at the Starboard Galley), gifts, or stipends from the operations account. Bills for project costs, donations to our causes, guest speaker meals (done annually), etc., are paid from the charity account. Paid dues are deposited in the operations account. Project profits and gifts/sponsorships are deposited into the charity account. The treasurer should check the club mailbox (P.O. Box 31) at the Newburyport Post Office on a regular basis. (For specifics on account numbers, see Banking Accounts.)
3. Should donors wish to make tax deductible gifts to the club, they must be run through The New England Exchange Clubs Foundation, a 501.c.3 entity, c/o L. J. Yameen, 57 Eaton St., Lawrence, MA 01843. Donations may be designated for a specific club or be made to the general fund, for which any club may make a grant application.
4. District and National dues are paid quarterly – January, April, July, and October – upon receipt of bills from each to the address on each bill. Quarterly



- District dues for an Active member are \$5.75 for operating, \$2 for conventions, and \$1.25 for education conferences, for a total of \$9. Quarterly National dues for an Active member are \$13 and for an At-Large member, \$1. In addition, each quarter the club pays \$25 for convention fees, \$25 for general liability insurance, and \$21.25 for crime insurance (1 to 24 Active members).
5. The monthly financial report should report all activities in the operations, charity, and scholarships accounts, with an up-to-date balance for each account.
 6. As a 501(c) organization, the club must file an annual Form 990-N Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) with the IRS, which is due by November 30. The filing is done for the fiscal year running from July 1 to June 30. After accessing Form 990-N on the IRS website, the following information is required:
 - Dates: July 1 of the previous year to June 30 of the current year.
 - Check box for: Gross receipts normally \$50,000 or below.
 - Organization: National Exchange Club d/b/a: Exchange Club of Greater Newburyport.
 - EIN: 31-0923193
 - Address: PO Box 31, Newburyport MA 01950
 - Name of Principal Officer (President) and his/her address.
 - A receipt will be sent to the sender's mail address.

