

The Rotary Club of Hillsborough

General Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2026

1. President Abed called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM
2. President Abed introduced guests:
 - Mike Williams from HDPS
 - Vivek Reo (guest of Bob Wagner)
 - Peter Lyn
 - Board Chair Kacey Kowalchuk and Vice Chair Sally Treonze, Project Graduation
 - Michael Blackwell, Greater New Brunswick Rotary Club President
 - Tamara Guillou (Outreach Manager) and Jeff Cromie (Resource Development Manager), Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity
3. Jamie Moore, financial planner, shared his concerns regarding the financial market and strongly suggests that members consider reducing risk in their portfolios because there is significant possibility of a drop in asset values.
4. Donation of \$500 to Peter “Pharmer Pete” Lyn, a Neshanic Station resident, who has been working hard to restore a farm in Jamaica following a devastating hurricane. Pete shared that the \$500 will support five farmers for a month.
5. Michael Blackwell, President of the Greater New Brunswick Rotary Club, has been working on a Rotary Global Grant Project to help special needs families in his community and asked for our help. North Brinsuck sensory room and a second one is planned in Piscataway. that Mike will talk about aligns with our work in this area and so I invited him to ask him to say a few words and present him with our donation.
6. Project Graduation - operating for 30 years. Iron Peak is hosting the event. Students are “locked in” for a free night of alcohol-free fun. Kacey and Sally from Project Graduation were presented with a check for \$3000 as part of a 3-year commitment.
7. Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, Tamara Guillou (Outreach Manager) and Jeff Cromie (Resource Development Manager)
 - The mission is to bring people together to build homes, communities and hope.
 - Since 1991, Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity has built 60 homes locally.
 - Over 150 homes funded internationally (this chapter connected internationally to Nepal)Extensive process includes:
 - financial qualifications, educational & financial workshops, minimum 200 hours of “sweat equity” required of the homeowners-Community Programs repair homes for qualified residents (Somerset/Hunterdon)
 - ReStores in Manville and Clinton
 - Accept gently used items which they resell

- Volunteer opportunities
- Veteran affiliate
- Signed developer agreements for up to 14 homes in Franklin Twsp & Lambertville

How can we help?

- Partnerships; group volunteer day
- Volunteer; expertise club members may have
- Donate ; ReStore items, cars, building materials, land

Signature Events:

- Hockey for Healthy Homes; Mar 15 play hockey with former NJ Devils players
- Golf "Fore" Homes; May 4

8. Upcoming Events

- 3/4/26 Dance for the Cure will share a presentation and receive the 2026 installment of our multi-year grant
- Hillsborough PBA to receive a donation for their Unity Tour
- New Member Induction: Bill Potter
- 3/18/26 Alzheimers New Jersey will be visiting with us to present their program
- 4/1/26- Rawhide Rescue will present in the second half of the meeting
- 4/15/26- Morristown Rotary Club will present their campaign to disarm PTSD among veterans
- 5/6/26 Michael Nehlsen (guest of Amrik) to present Hope for the Warriors which is a national non-profit dedicated to restoring a sense of stability, strength and community for post-9/11 service members, veterans, and military families.
- 6/3/26 Visions and Pathways to present their program.

9. Happy Dollars and joke were offered

10. Raffle won by John Ciccarelli; no winner for Queen of Hearts

11. Fines levied by Bob Wagner

12. Four-way test

13. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM by President Abed