

## **Solon Civic Club – January General Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** January 16, 2024 7:00 pm

**Location:** Empowering Epilepsy Office, Beachwood

**WELCOME** – Nicole welcomed everyone to the meeting and the new year and thanked Leigh Goldie and Empowering Epilepsy for hosting tonight's meeting.

**SOCIAL** - (presented by Jackie) Email was sent out regarding the January jewelry event. Galentines Night will change because the movie that was planned will not be released on schedule. A GNO at Elle will be held instead. A Google sign up will be sent. The next Coffee Meet Up will be 2/2 at Heritage Coffee at 9 am.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** - Kathie was not available. Information regarding Adopt a Family was included in the newsletter. Thank you to everyone who supported this worthy cause.

**SUNSHINE** - Please share anything relevant with the committee chairs. Their information is in the newsletter.

**LUNCH WITH SANTA** - Donna - We sold 468 tickets 68 were from the sensory hour. I do not feel we were overly crowded but the craft and games people would know better. We had numerous volunteers. I do believe we could have had more for set up and especially we could have used more men. The price we paid for games was \$146.60. The price of printing the flyers was \$148.23 but that was paid by donation. The coffee and snacks were from the \$50.00 gift card from Giant Eagle. The pop and water was donated by CocaCola. The magician cost us \$200.00. Food cost total was \$1327.00 including pizza. The big cost will be the custodian. We won't know that until March. It was another successful event and I know all the kids had fun. Kathie added (via Nicole) that crafts went well and she's looking forward to fresh ideas and working with the new chairs next year.

**SECRETARY** - Denise thanked everyone for signing in and participating in our get-to-know you name tag questions. We are looking for ideas to have our members get to know one another. Minutes were posted to the website and linked in the newsletter. We will vote to approve them in New Business.

**TREASURER** – Robin Siff – The budget has been updated to reflect the current numbers from LWS. Final costs will be in soon and then the overall budget will be evaluated. We received more donations for the event this year than in the past. Please pay your dues if you haven't - PayPal, Venmo, cash, or checks are accepted. All are listed on the website and in the newsletter.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Nicole Lieber - Bobby Carlton, Amy Rothenfeld and Donna Stefano volunteered to serve as the Nominating Committee. Amy Rothenfeld made a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting. Donna Stefano seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

**VOLUNTEER EVENT** - There will be a volunteer opportunity at the Cleveland Kids Book Bank on February 28, 6 - 8 pm at their warehouse downtown. We have 20 volunteer slots to fill and Denise will share the Sign Up Genius in the next newsletter. There will also be slots for refreshments. We will be likely be sorting, evaluating, and cleaning donated books. We will also hold a book drive at the February meeting and take the books along with us that evening.

**VICE PRESIDENT** – Jackie Chapnick – Our meeting on February 20 will feature Solon Mayor Ed Kraus. March's meeting will have a speaker from Chagrin Valley Dispatch. April's meeting will focus on women's health, with Christine Hales.

Jackie introduced Leigh Goldie, the founder of Empowering Epilepsy, which has just celebrated its tenth anniversary. Leigh spoke passionately about Empowering Epilepsy, which is a nonprofit organization that works to better the lives of those living with epilepsy through education, programming, events, and support. Throughout the year many conferences, support groups, art therapy sessions, social activities, and other events are held. Empowering Epilepsy works with many of the top epilepsy specialists in the country. After hearing an overview of the organization, we spent time putting together Epilepsy Monitoring Unit Gift Bags, which included educational materials, brochures about EE, and items like a cervical neck pillow, chapstick, an art therapy coloring book with pencils, and a stress ball to help patients more comfortable when they are having extensive testing done,