

## **Kiwanis Meeting – June 9, 2025**

**Attendance:** 13 members and 1 guest

### **Meeting Called to Order**

- Motion to open: Kevin Seconded by: Wendy

### **Social Events**

- Our last social was a success with a great turnout. A new member and a potential member attended. We'll follow up with prospective members.
- **Next Social:** Johnny Mac's, June 25th at 6:00 PM. *The more, the merrier!*

### **Volunteer QR Code**

- We need to investigate where the volunteer sign-up information is going when the QR code on our signage is scanned.

### **Beach Toy Box**

- New bilingual signs (English and Spanish) have arrived, requesting that toys be returned after use. We hope this will improve return rates. Donations are always welcome and can be dropped directly into the box.

### **Scholarship Committee**

- Shannon extends a big thank you to everyone on the scholarship committee! It was great to have so much participation this year. **Three scholarships will be awarded at APHS on June 10th.** Presenters: Shannon, Valli, Tom, Kevin, and Deena.

### **Recipients:**

- **Alexandra Santiago** – \$1,000 (Future plans: Temple University, Sports Marketing & Journalism)
- **Emily Ruiz Mejia** – \$1,000 (Future plans: Rider University, Business)
- **Edwin Cortes Mota** – \$500 (Future plans: Brookdale, Biology)
- In addition, Jacki, Dom, Valli, and Tom generously funded scholarships for the remaining three applicants.

- Glorianne Gonzalez Student Volunteer Scholarship from Kiwanis and Community Karma – \$750 to be awarded Saturday, June 14th. Celia planned a lunch; Kevin will attend on behalf of the committee.

## Food Pantry

- Mercy Center Food Pantry still needs volunteers. Shannon will send out a sign-up sheet. Shifts are from 4–6 PM.

## Covenant House

- As of June 4, both houses are at full capacity with the recent arrival of a new female resident. Remaining grant funds may be used for an event—possibly a gardening project. Further discussion to come with Karen and Steve.

## Play on Pine

- Begins **June 20th**. Kerri Martin received a grant from North Shore. Kiwanis will participate **every Friday from 5–7 PM** throughout the summer. Sign up on **SignUpGenius**. "**Paint on Pine**" will be a special one-time event on June 20th for children, held on Pine Street between 2nd and 3rd Ave..

## Library Partnership

- The **Summer Reading Kickoff and Resource Fair** on May 31st at the library was a success. Kiwanis volunteers distributed toys to children.
- Discussion of the **Local Resource Tool** for Asbury Park, in partnership with RWJB, to launch a new website that helps residents find local organizations.
- Using the library's code to purchase *Eat Here Now* (EHN) books will provide a \$1 discount and support the new website and library programming.

## EHN – Asbury Park Book Co-op

- Still partnering on the sale of *Eat Here Now* books. More events and signings are planned to boost sales. Chris suggested selling books at **Asbury Underground/North Shore Festival on Saturday, June 21st**, and offered to staff a table.

## Community Support

- **Juice Basin** (Madeline, a small business owner and Kiwanis friend) needs help pressing juice between **June 9–14**. Contact **Steve Everk** if you can volunteer even an hour to assist.

## Kiwanis Elections

- Elections are approaching. Cori provided an overview of available positions. **Jeannine** will be next year's President. We will nominate and vote on board members and officers at our next meeting.
- **Current Structure:** 6 board members and 6 officers. To nominate yourself or someone else, complete the google form by June 27th.

## Soccer League Initiative

- Kevin met with the AP Athletic Director to propose a youth soccer league. The school is interested and receptive. The initiative is gaining momentum, especially with the high school team's current success.