

My Thoughts on Bear Ears Roundtable



Dallas Karren, President of UIMF, organized and moderated the event.

My first initial thought on this roundtable on November 10, 2021 was the variety of people that were there. I was shocked to see the level of academic achievements that people had that were attending this meeting. Before this meeting, I had never heard of the Utah Valley University (UVU) Rotary club and I had no idea what it was. I learned from Lynn Hillstead that it is, “a satellite club of the Orem Lindon Club. It’s a club for college-age students and they participate with us on service projects.” He went on to mention how they support the students and I thought that was really cool. Rotary clubs can partner with each other from all over the world or they could stay local. I didn’t really know how diverse rotary clubs could be. They are

specifically non-religious and non-political so Lynn Hillstead was saying it's easier to get into different parts of the world.

I was shocked as to how much I learned from just one speaker! I think my favorite speaker was Sarah Hunt. She started her few minutes by talking about how important it is for leaders to “bring peace and healing to our communities because division and hurt are everywhere.” I thought that was just the coolest thing ever! I think it is so important for any leader's perspective to be outward. I feel like all of the speakers used big words and it was hard at times to know what they were saying 100% of the time. Even though all the big terminology was hard to get for me, Sarah explained everything super well. I was really impressed and it was nice to keep up with what was being talked about! Natural resources are huge!

I like how Dustin talked about culture and something that stood out to me was the evolution of how ethics have changed. He said, “native religion is land-based religion.” I thought that was really interesting! I like how they had a question and answer section of the video.

This was a great experience for me to learn about local issues and the different sides that need to be heard and respected before decisions are made. I was impressed that this was set up and run by students. I was impressed with their professionalism and the speakers they chose. It was a great experience.

-Abby King, Student at UVU