

Williamson County Illinois Retired Teachers Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Marion, Illinois April 6, 2017

I. Roll Call: President Kent Carrell called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm on April 6, 2017. Present: Steve Maxwell, Tom Oates, John Harland, Marge Mangan, Betsy Murphy, Loren Taylor, and Anna Morris. Absent: Bob Campbell, Judy Harland, and Bert Gordon.

II. Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by Tom Oates and seconded by Loren Taylor to accept the Minutes of the January 5, 2017 WCIRTA Board Meeting. Motion carried. Another motion was made by Marge Mangan and seconded by Anna Morris to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2017 WCIRTA General Membership Meeting. Motion carried. In the absence of Treasurer Don Kragness, President Carrell reported a balance of \$2585.62. A motion was made by Tom Oates and seconded by Anna Morris to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

III. Plans for Dinner for New Retirees: WCIRTA Dinner Meeting for 2017 retirees is planned for April 26, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

- A. New retirees will be personally invited with a phone call made by WCIRTA board members (Tom Oates-Herrin retirees, John Harland-Marion retirees, Anna Morris-Carterville retirees, Loren Taylor-Johnston City retirees, Betsy Murphy-WCES retirees). Contact will be followed up with a letter inviting them to attend the dinner. WCIRTA will provide dinner for the retirees. Spouses are welcome to attend but must pay for their dinner. An RSVP will be requested.
- B. Dinner meeting is confirmed for Mackie's Pizza Restaurant on April 26, 2017 at 6:00 pm.
- C. Information to be shared with the new retirees may include:
 - a. President Carell welcome and introduction of Executive Board.
 - b. ROE information regarding certification.
 - c. Insurance information and/or questions.
 - d. AMBA information regarding services available.
 - e. IRTA Foundation information provided by Judy Harland.
 - f. Folders will be created by Betsy Murphy with information obtained by John Harland from TRS and IRTA. WCIRTA marketing brochure will be included as well as other pertinent forms and information regarding IRTA benefits and accomplishments.

IV. Plans for Next Membership Meeting on May 9, 2017:

- A. May 9, 2017 General Membership Meeting will take place at 12:00 pm at Mackie's Pizza Restaurant.
- B. Marge Mangan will contact Ella York, Illinois State's Attorney's Office about providing a program for the meeting.

Addendum to the minutes: Marge Mangan confirmed on 4/7/17 that Ella York agreed to be the featured speaker at the WCIRTA General Membership Meeting on May 9, 2017 at Mackie's Pizza at 12:00 pm.

V. Reports from Standing Committee Chairs:

- A. Legislation: Anna Morris provided the following updates:
 - a. Cullerton and Radogno are attempting a deal with a revised school funding formula, the beginning portion of SB1.
 - b. SIU is considering \$30 million cuts.

- c. Lump sum payouts are being considered in lieu of annuity payments.
 - d. Supreme Court has declined a request to bypass a lower court and immediately take up Rauner's case for imposing pay and working conditions on members of AFSCME.
- B. Membership: Steve Maxwell reported that two new members joined WCIRTA at the last membership meeting: Steve Robinson and Sue Hamilton. Dues were received from 13 members since the last meeting but 117 are still unpaid. Notice was received that Ruth Berger passed away. A memorial donation will be made.
- C. Member Benefits: Marge Mangan shared information regarding the following benefits:
 - a. Pet Health Insurance is available provided by Nationwide Insurance Company. Three benefit plans are available (Whole Pet with Wellness, Major Medical, and Wellness Basic). Some deductibles apply. Cost is determined by the size and weight of the pet.
 - b. AMBA Long Term Care Policy can be designed to match your own individual needs by selecting a daily benefit amount, elimination period, and benefit period which best suits the individual's need for care. Premiums depend upon age and other factors. AMBA contact information is 800-258-7041.
- D. Finance: Tom Oates reported that Central Management Services will be managed by a private business with the intent of providing more efficient services.
- E. Information Services: Loren Taylor reported that he has provided current IRTA information for the newsletter.
- F. Foundation: John Harland updated IRTA Foundation information in the absence of Judy Harland.
 - a. Last year 9 individuals applied for the 2 Region 6 scholarships (\$3500 Shirley Dodds Scholarship and \$1500 IRTA Scholarship). To date only 2 have applied this year.
 - b. \$36000 is available for Active teacher grants and will be awarded this summer throughout the state. Up to \$750 can be awarded for projects. Attention will be given to ensure that grants are equalized throughout the state.

VI. Other Business:

- A. Regional Director Report: John Harland reported:
 - a. Not a lot happening in Springfield because of the ongoing budget battle.
 - b. All pension talk is oriented towards active teachers.
 - c. A one-time buy out is being discussed.
 - d. Taxing pensions is not being considered at the moment due to the fact that this change would have to apply to all retirees in the state systems, not just teachers which involves a million voters.
 - e. IRTA Board of Directors Meeting will take place April 19, 2017 and an IRTA Foundation Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2017.
 - f. This is John Harland's last year as Regional Director. Gayla Dial will become the new Regional Director and will mentor with John until she takes over the position.
- B. Convention-Silent Auction: IRTA Convention is scheduled for October 30-31, 2017 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois. Baskets are being requested for the Silent Auction supporting PAC. A motion was made by Marge Mangan and seconded by Anna Morris to donate \$100 to the Convention PAC in lieu of a basket. Motion carried.
- C. Area 6 Conference May 4, 2017-List of attendees due April 15, 2017: Area 6 Conference is scheduled for May 4, 2017 in Carbondale, Illinois. Eight individuals may attend at no registration cost. Members attending are:
 - a. Kent Carrell
 - b. Anna Morris

- c. Tom Oates
- d. Loren Taylor
- e. Judy Harland
- f. Marge Mangan
- g. Steve Maxwell
- h. Bert Gordon-Kent Carrell will check to see if he is interested in attending.
- i. John Harland will attend as Region 6 Director.

D. Newsletter Deadlines

April 11, 2017 for articles to Tish Koontz

April 14, 2017 typed copy to ROE

April 21, 2017 email and mail out to members

The ROE is no longer able to mail out the newsletters. John Harland will purchase and request reimbursement for stamps for approximately 79 newsletters that need to be mailed.

VII. Next Board Meeting:

Next Board Meeting: June 22, 2017 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Marion, IL

VIII. Adjourn: A motion was made by Loren Taylor and seconded by Tom Oates to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Murphy, Secretary