

## **Ogle-Lee Retired Teachers' Association Executive Board Meeting- September 10, 2019**

The September 10, 2019 Ogle-Lee Retired Teachers' Association Executive Board Meeting was called to order by Co-President Becky Cheek at 10:16 a.m. at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library with the following members present: Becky Cheek, Michele Glen, Diane Kenney, Carole Sutton, Linda Kenney, Jean Whipple, Richard Longfellow, Kim McKenna, Phil Bratta, and Elke Grennan.

The motion by Kim McKenna and seconded by Phil Bratta to accept the minutes from the June 11, 2019 Executive Board Meeting and the July 9, 2019 Membership Meeting was approved.

The motion by Diane Kenney and seconded by Jean Whipple to accept the Sept. 9, 2019 treasurer's report as presented by Linda Kenney was approved. The Checking Account Balance was \$8,413.47, the Memorial Fund Balance was \$305.81, and the Life Account Balance was \$7,735.72. Total assets were \$16,455.00.

Membership Chairperson Jean Whipple reported that frequently retirees only join the IRTA at the state level and do not join at the local level. There are no Ogle-Lee Unit pipeline members and no new members joined Ogle-Lee Unit since our last meeting. The problem in recruiting younger retirees to join and become active in local units was discussed. The motion by Richard Longfellow and seconded by Jean Whipple to automatically send a welcome letter and complimentary Ogle-Lee Unit membership card for the balance of the Ogle-Lee Unit membership year when an Ogle-Lee area retiree joins IRTA effective with the 2020 membership year was approved.

Carole Sutton, Diane Kenney, and Becky Cheek will set up an informational table at the TRS Retirement Meeting on October 1, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Dixon at Reagan Middle School. A request to speak at the meeting about IRTA membership will also be made to TRS. IRTA will be contacted for membership packets. The motion by Jean Whipple and seconded by Richard Longfellow to spend up to \$30.00 for candy treats and attach IRTA labels was approved.

Legislative Chairperson Kim McKenna reported on some IL legislative acts benefiting active teachers.

Linda Kenney reported that member David Simpson from Lee Center has passed away.

Jean Whipple presented the calling coordinator's report. Several callers requested to be replaced and a calling coordinator will also be needed to replace Marvel Blomberg. October Luncheon reservation calls are to be made Sept. 23-28 and names due to Marvel Blomberg by Sept. 28, 2019. The Co-Presidents will notify LOMC of attendee count by Oct. 1 and verify valet parking and/or golf cart transportation between the parking lot and dining lodge.

The next membership luncheon meeting is October 8, 2019 at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center near Oregon with registration beginning at 11:00 a.m., the business meeting at Noon, lunch at 12:30 p.m., and the program beginning at approximately 1:15 p.m. The luncheon fee is \$15.00. The menu features roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, tossed salad, apple crisp, ice tea, hot tea, and coffee. The business meeting includes election of officers and appointment of committee chairpersons. Diane Kenney and Carole Sutton are in charge of the program and table decorations. Bea Chaplin will present a program about Laura Ingalls Wilder. She will need a microphone and table. Former Illinois Senator Tim Bivens and his wife Terry will be our honored guests. Diane Kenney will

read an introduction composed by Richard Longfellow thanking Senator Bivens for his support on educational and retirement issues.

No one from the Ogle-Lee Unit has signed up to attend the 2019 IRTA State Convention on October 14 and 15, 2019 at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. There will not be an Ogle-Lee Unit Honoree recognized at the IRTA State Convention. The co-presidents are gathering local products for the IRTAPAC Silent Auction Basket. Becky Cheek will arrange delivery of the Ogle-Lee Unit Basket to the IRTA Convention in Springfield.

To date, there are no nominations for the office of President (or Co-Presidents) and Vice President (or Co-Vice Presidents) and nominations will be accepted up to time of election at the October 8 meeting. Other positions that remain open are Webmaster (and/or Assistant Webmaster), Legislative Chairperson, Historian, Calling (Reservations) Coordinator, and some Callers. One member has inquired about duties of Historian.

A discussion of membership demographics, membership/participation decline, meeting times and formats, locations for meetings, transportation issues for aging membership perhaps utilizing LOTS bus, low participation by Lee County retirees, and future options for Ogle-Lee Unit will be continued at the November Executive Board Meeting. The Co-Presidents will contact IRTA for guidance and IRTA policies for the Ogle-Lee Unit to consider such as merger, dissolution, and other options, if there will not be a full set of officers to conduct business after the October Ogle-Lee Unit Officers Election. Input will be sought from the entire membership via an article and survey in the newsletter.

Linda Kenney announced a thank you note was received from the IRTA Foundation for donations made by Ogle-Lee Unit members. Carole Sutton thanked the Board for their support and donations to the Ogle-Lee Unit Memorial Fund.

The next Executive Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 10:15 a.m. at the Flag-Rochelle Public Library in the lower level meeting room. Future meeting dates to be determined.

Diane Kenney moved and Richard Longfellow seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Submitted by Elke Grennan, Ogle-Lee RTA Secretary