

Ogle-Lee Retired Teachers Association

"a local unit of Illinois Retired Teachers Association"

Ogle-Lee RTA Board Emeeting Minutes: October 2020 - January 2021

The Ogle-Lee RTA Executive Board Meeting scheduled for October 13, 2020 at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library and January 19, 2021 (possibly via Zoom) were canceled per Covid-19 Guidelines recommended by the Illinois Governor during the Covid-19 outbreak. Instead the Board conducted business via email communication to discuss an informal agenda and President Kim McKenna conducted email voting as needed. The Ogle-Lee RTA Constitution and Robert's Rules of Order guidelines were temporarily adapted for the email format. Any major policy changes or funding requests were voted upon with several days allotted between presenting the motions and voting deadlines. Board members receiving emails were Kim McKenna, Carole Sutton, Linda Kenney, Jean Whipple, Becky Cheek, Michele Glen, Phil Bratta, Gene Chaplin, and Elke Grennan.

On 10/17/20 Membership Chairperson Jean Whipple sent either a letter or an email to 51 Ogle-Lee RTA members informing them that annual local dues for 2021 are now being accepted. On 12/8/20 Membership Chairperson Jean Whipple sent a second notice to 21 Ogle-Lee RTA members who have not responded to membership renewal dues payment notice.

On 10/29/20 President Kim McKenna requested input from the Board as to meeting format, need for meetings, and agenda for balance of 2020 and 2021.

On 11/12/20 Kim McKenna reported that the Board prefers email meetings and requested input from officers concerning suggested agenda items including officer contact information, review of the 2020 financial reports from the treasurer, membership updates, membership meetings formats and content, and ways of keeping in contact with members.

On 11/17/20 Kim McKenna announces will send out email meeting agenda in two weeks.

On 12/1/20 Kim McKenna sent out agenda for December Board Meeting and requested response to items #4- Ogle-Lee RTA officer election scheduled for 10/2021 with nominations due 7/2021, # 5- Executive Board meeting dates and format, and #7- Ideas to keep in touch with members. 2021 Board Meetings have been tentatively scheduled for Tuesdays, January 19 to review the treasurer's books as required by our Constitution, April 13, August 10, and October 12. No membership meetings have been scheduled due to Covid-19 recommendations concerning large group gatherings. The suggestions to have callers contact members on their calling list and/or a possible small gift for members will be determined by Board email discussion and consensus.

On 12/8/20 Jean Whipple forwarded email from Kim McKenna/IRTA to membership announcing the IRTA Foundation Scholarships for college junior or senior pursuing a an education degree and the Moler-Austin Scholarship restricted to a graduate from a Kendall County High School.

On 12/12/20 it was announced that Kim McKenna has prepared a letter to callers requesting that they get in touch with members on their calling list either via phone, email, or a mailed note with holiday greetings and inquire if they have any concerns or questions we can help them with. Jean Whipple will mail an updated membership directory along with the caller letter. The membership directory will also be mailed to the officers. The directory will include name, mailing address, phone number, and email address for all current members. Jean Whipple asked about expenses incurred in preparing 20 copies of the directory. It was decided by email consensus of Board members that this was a standard expense for the membership chairperson and that Jean should submit bills for printing, large brown envelopes, and postage to Linda Kenney, treasurer.

On 1/12/21 President Kim McKenna emailed the 12/31/20 Ogle-Lee RTA Treasurer's Annual Report to Board members. Jean Whipple made the email motion and Elke Grennan seconded the motion to accept the three reports for review. On 1/15/21 Treasurer Linda Kenney updated the annual report to clarify income report and updated interest earned in

2020 and Kim McKenna forwarded the revised report to the Board members for study and approval at 1/19/21 Board Meeting conducted via email.

2020 Income Report: \$970 collected in local membership dues, \$139.16 in interest earned on bank accounts, and \$75 in donations to Memorial Fund (\$1239.16 total income for 2020)

2020 Expenses Report: \$150.60 in postage, \$129.74 in printing, \$14.95 for bank check order, and \$16.99 for supplies (\$312.28 total expenses for 2020)

2020 Account Balances as of 12/31/20: Checking Account- \$8986.46, Memorial Fund- \$435.81, Life Account- \$7920.14 (Total assets \$17,342.41 as of 12/31/20)

On 1/15/21 Jean Whipple forwarded information from President Kim McKenna about the Ogle County Health Department updated information on the distribution and registration of the covid vaccine in Ogle County and Lee County.

On 1/16/21 President Kim McKenna requested Secretary Elke Grennan prepare a summary of IRTA highlights, Board email communications and activities for Board review for inclusion to the official minutes of Ogle-Lee RTA.

On 1/19/21 President Kim McKenna forwarded a summary of IRTA communications to Board. The IRTA convention committee voted to scale back the size of the convention this year, but will still host it in person at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Registration materials will be sent to local presidents in April. Registration is \$45.

IRTA Executive Committee summary:

There are 163,115 current active TRS members. 1099 forms will be mailed by January 31. The 3% cost of living allowance will be paid on February 1st. Annuitants may log into their Member Account on the TRS website and find verification of income and insurance letters, benefit reports, and statements regarding monthly/yearly income. TRS contact information can be found at: members@trsil.org or through the website: trsil.org

Legislative update:

No bills were passed pertaining to retirees during the Lame Duck session. IRTA continues to actively monitor any proposed state legislation pertaining to retirees and education.

On 1/19/21 President Kim McKenna called for an email vote on the motion by Jean Whipple and seconded by Elke Grennan to accept the 2020 Treasurer's Report as prepared by Treasurer Linda Kenney and the annual review by the Board of the Treasurer's bookkeeping. The motion passed.

On 1/21/21 President Kim McKenna forwarded the Ogle-Lee RTA E-mail Board Meeting Minutes from October 2020 to January 2021 to Board for approval and opinion on distribution to membership. Jean Whipple made the motion to accept the minutes and Linda Kenney seconded. It was approved. It was decided to direct members to website for published minutes.

Submitted by Elke Grennan, Ogle-Lee RTA Secretary