

**LCRTA BOARD MEETING
KIRTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
MARCH 6, 2023**

BOARD MEMBERS

- **Present:** Louise Bennet, Debbie Deal, Pat Humphrey, Connie Irvin, Janene Ishee, Ginny Keller, Char Langer, Bonnie Lillibridge, Lynn Miller, Tom Moscovic, and Cathy Trepal.
- **Absent:** Sherry Barbieri, Marion Lipinski, Sue McCarter, Dave Morse, Sherry Niederkorn, Tim Niederkorn, Greta Pate, and Karen Sawitke.

CALL TO ORDER: President Cathy Trepal called the meeting to order at 1:02.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the December 5, 2022 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Humphrey reported a total of all monies as of March 6, 2023 to be \$11, 896.26, which included \$2,764.10 in Scholarship monies. The report will be filed for audit. Pat reported that the audit was held on February 21, 2023 and everything was found to be in order. Pat submitted the paperwork from the audit.

Social Travel Treasurer's Report: Lynn Miller resubmitted the Treasurer's Report from the February General Meeting with one correction made. The total of all monies on February 14, 2023 was \$3,785.17 rather than \$3,784.95. Lynn reported the total of all monies on March 6, 2023 to be \$5,043.67. The report will be filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM: Connie Irvin remarked that Rob McFee from STRS will be the speaker at the April meeting. Connie asked for feedback on areas that board members would want discussed. Tom Moscovic suggested that Rob talk about experiences while on the STRS board and his perspective on the present situation. Tom volunteered to talk to Rob. Connie expressed concerns that this talk should not turn into a debate.

MEETING CHAIR: Cathy reported in Sue McCarter's absence that the meeting will be held at Mentor United Methodist Church and the menu will be turkey club wrap or veggie wrap with potato salad, cookie, water and coffee. Cathy also mentioned that Sue would like to form a committee to be in charge of set up and tear down. Pat suggested that there should also be a person there each month that is a member of MUMC. Pat also reported that the price needed to be raised for the April meeting because with the price set at \$14.00 in February, there was a shortage.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: Louise Bennet said since we were meeting at MUMC, the donations would be collected in April for the MUMC food pantry. Louise received a thank you note from Grace Episcopal Church thanking LCRTA for the many Christmas items donated. Thank you also to Pat Newyear and Thora Scott for taking the items to the church.

INFO/PROTECTIVE SERVICES: Janene Ishee has the article written for the next newsletter and plans on discussing immunizations in the fall.

SOCIAL/TRAVEL: Lynn reported on the following events:

- April 16th - "Noises Off" at the Beck Center. There are 25 people signed up.
- April 19th - Sights Unseen in Cleveland. Reservations are due in by March 14th.
- May 30th - L.C. Captains Baseball Game. Forms with checks are to be mailed to Sherry Niederkorn.
- June 9th-11th - Mackinac Island and Lilac Festival. The 2nd payment is due to Kathy Kling by April 1st.
- June 29th - "Anything Goes" at Rabbit Run. Checks of \$26 are due to Sherry Niederkorn by June 1st.
- September 14th - Ghost Walk of Willoughby.
- October 6-21, 2023 - The Great Rivers of Europe Riverboat Cruise is closed.
- November 28-Dec. 2, 2023 - Cape May at Christmastime. Twenty seats are available.
- 2024 — trip to Hawaii with cruise

LEGISLATIVE: Tom Moscovic reported the following:

- Several proposals in the Ohio legislature seek to advance massive expansions in eligibility for school vouchers, which comes at the expense of the approximately 90% of students who attend Ohio public schools. Voucher programs use public taxpayer money to pay for private school tuition for K-12 students. Tom suggested members should contact legislators to oppose harmful provisions such as universal vouchers.
 - HB #33 - An increase in the eligibility for the income-based EdChoice voucher program from 250% of federal poverty guidelines to 400%.
 - SB #11 - Universal eligibility under the EdChoice voucher program. All K-12 students regardless of income would be eligible for vouchers. The bill also increases the homeschooling tax credit from \$250 to \$2,000.
 - HB #11 - A universal voucher bill that would make all K-12 students eligible for a new “backpack scholarship” for tuition at private schools or homeschooling. Unlike the current voucher programs, it would pay for tuition at both chartered and non-chartered private schools.
- On March 1st the Ohio Senate passed SB #1 to change the powers and duties of the State Board of Education and transfer most of them to a department under the governor. OEA outlined a number of concerns with the proposal.

MEMBERSHIP: Karen Sawitke sent reports with Louise. Membership stands at 157. The newest member is Joyce Dick. Karen asked board members for the names of retired teachers that might be interested in joining. Connie remarked upon the need for younger members to become involved.

SUNSHINE/REMEMBRANCE: Ginny Keller sent cards to Bobette Kruter because of a fall, to Sandy Cobb because of back surgery, to Barbara Savage because of cancer, and to the family of Thomas Guerra upon his death.

YEARBOOK: Bonnie Lillibridge and Char Hanger reported that the yearbooks will go to print next week. Books will be distributed at the April meeting. The books will be mailed to those not in attendance.

NEWSLETTER: Newsletter articles are due to Karen preferably by March 10th (March 12th at the latest). 31 members will receive the newsletter by mail and 126 members by email.

GRANT: Nine applications were received for the Jean P. Lentz Memorial Active Teacher Grant. Recipients received \$300. Only two school districts responded — 1 application from Riverside and 8 from Willoughby-Eastlake. A check was sent to the Treasurer of Willoughby-Eastlake Schools with directions to the recipients.

Thank you to the Grant Committee that was composed of Louise Bennet, Marilyn Decker, Sharon Hazen, Lynn Miller, Pat Newyear, Vickie Stacy, and Chair Karen Sawitke.

The following received funding for their project:

1. Ashley Tagle (Thomas Jefferson) “Fourth Grade Language Scholars” (60 students)
2. Mallory Salomon (Thomas Jefferson) “Structured Play Group” (7 K-2 in Autism Unit)
3. Shannon Davis “Royalview Reads” (23 Second Graders to have books to read at home)
4. Jamie McMahon (Longfellow) “Reading Comprehension” (21 First Graders)

NEW BUSINESS

ORTA changed the name from Ohio Retired Teacher’s Association to Ohio Retirement for Teacher’s Association. Connie moved that LCRTA change the name in Article I of the Constitution. Tom seconded the motion which was approved by members.

UPCOMING DATES:

Next General Meeting: April 11th.

Next Board Meeting: May 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10

Debbie Deal
Recording Secretary