

**LCRTA BOARD MEETING
KIRTLAND LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

BOARD MEMBERS

- **PRESENT:** Louise Bennet, Debbie Deal, Terri Herbert, Pat Humphrey, Virginia Keller, Bonnie Lillibridge, Sue McCarter, Lynn Miller, Dave Morse, Tom Moscovic. Pat Newyear, Sherry Niederkorn, Tim Niederkorn, and Karen Sawitke.
- **ABSENT:** Sherry Barbieri and Pat Mazzolini
- **EXCUSED:** Greta Pate

CALL TO ORDER: President Karen Sawitke called the meeting to order at 1:05.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes from the August meeting were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Humphrey reported a total of all monies as of September 23, 2019 to be \$8,380.16, which includes \$299.91 in Scholarship monies. The report will be filed for audit.

SOCIAL/TRAVEL REPORT: Lynn Miller reported a total of all monies as of September 23, 2019 to be \$4384.01. The report will be filed for audit. The report included compensation checks to the people traveling on the Australia trip.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAMS: Dave Morse stated that the November meeting program will be presented by John Foster who will portray Alexander Hamilton. Dave asked the board if they were in favor of asking Rebecca McFarland back to present a program on Elliott Ness. The board responded favorably.

MEETINGS: Sue McCarter reported that the November meeting will be held in the back room of the Kirtlander Party Center. The menu will include salad, rolls, Chicken Marsala, whipped potato, vegetable medley and apple fritters with a vegetarian choice of Penne Pasta Primavera for \$16.00. Sue stated that the Kirtlander is trying to be accommodating and that they only charge for the number of meals served.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION: Louise Bennet has chosen 68 Hours of Hunger for the November charity. Louise stated how appreciative Hannah's Home was of the generous donation in September.

INFO/PROTECTIVE SERVICES: Terri Herbert's article for the Bellringer will be on Lake County's Good Deed Program. At the November meeting, Terri will ask for a volunteer to take over this position.

SOCIAL/TRAVEL: The committee reported that those attending Rabbit Run had a great time and that Lois Hosmer won a gift card.

There will be a LCRTA Travel Flier Information Meeting on November 14, 2019 at 1:30 in the Garfield Room at Mentor Public Library. The meeting will discuss the trip to Albuquerque, N.M. as well as future trips under construction.

The Williamsburg trip in December is filled but names can be put on a wait list.

Willoughby Fine Arts will present "A Jazzy Holiday Concert" on December 11, 2019. "A Stroll Down Broadway" will be presented in March of 2020.

LEGISLATIVE: Tom Moscovic reported the State Report Card for 2018-2019. Lake County Schools received the following grades: Kirtland, Madison, Mentor, and Perry received a grade of B; Riverside, Wickliffe, and Willoughby-Eastlake received a grade of C; Fairport Harbor and Painesville received a grade of D. Tom pointed out that the median household income correlated with the grade received.

STRS Ohio is celebrating its 100th year of existence. Tom shared some fun facts.

Ohio may cut benefits for future state employees as part of a public pension fix.

Gov. DeWine signed an executive order to create a new office that will focus on school safety.

Rep. Tim Ryan and Mike Bost introduced the Teacher Health and Wellness Act to provide support for teachers by creating a pilot study aimed at reducing teacher stress, increasing teacher health, and ultimately boosting student achievement.

Phi Delta Kappan poll results indicated that Americans love their local schools but are ambivalent about schools in general, parents support stricter school discipline, parents prize academics over social and emotional learning, and support for increased teacher pay varies with how much the public knows about teacher pay.

MEMBERSHIP: Karen reported that dues will be collected starting in November. Information will appear in the newsletter and a post card will be sent out the end of October, which will include an option to donate to the scholarship and grant programs. Karen stated that we need to look at the people on the retiree list.

SCHOLARSHIP: Tim Niederkorn reported that the scholarship committee met to discuss and revise the process and documents. A detailed timeline was decided upon and funding was discussed. Current sources include donations at luncheons and donations with annual membership renewal. There also have been large, random donations in the past. The committee plans to continue Dine-to-Donate. The board responded favorably to a silent auction or white elephant sale as part of a luncheon. The committee will also look into estate planning and memorials to fund scholarships. The committee will meet again on November 8, 2019.

SUNSHINE/REMEMBRANCE: Pat Newyear reported that no cards were sent out.

HISTORIAN: Virginia Keller stated that she will continue as Historian.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Greta Pate is willing to continue to work on public relations and to assist with luncheons. Terri Herbert asked Greta to be Chaplain.

Sherry Niederkorn stated that articles have appeared in the News Herald and the Gazette.

Gail Stuehr, a reporter from the Gazette newspapers, was a guest at the September luncheon. Gail will focus on getting new members to join.

YEARBOOK: Bonnie Lillibridge is starting to get things organized for the new yearbook. Bonnie would appreciate some help, especially with proof reading.

NEWSLETTER/TEACHER GRANT: Members on the Grant committee will meet in October. Articles for the Bellringer are due by October 7th.

WEBSITE: Sherry Niederkorn is constantly updating the website. Dave Morse asked if the old website could be taken down so Karen Sawitke will look into it.

DIRECTORS: Karen Sawitke will take one place from 2020-2022. There is a need for another director.

DISCUSSIONS:

- ORTA – no information was received. Susan Harris, LCRTA’s liaison, will be at the November meeting.
- Installation of officers – Pat Newyear will be in charge of the installation of Co-Presidents Dave Morse and Terri Herbert and of Virginia Keller as President-Elect.
- Budget – The Budget Committee, chaired by Pat Humphrey, met on August 26th. Members included Louise Bennet, Terri Herbert, and Vickie Stacy. Tom Moscovic moved to approve the budget and Sue McCarter seconded the motion. The proposed budget will be taken to the November General Meeting for a vote. Erwin Leffel and Carl Stumpf will serve on the audit committee.
- Bellringer – Karen led a discussion on the cost to mail the newsletter. A suggestion was made to explain in the next Bellringer the savings that would be accomplished by more people agreeing to receive it by email.
- Possible changes in meeting organization – Karen suggested having the meeting first, followed by the lunch and then the speaker. Sherry Niederkorn pointed out that it might be difficult for the Kirtlander to know what time to be prepared to serve the luncheon. The discussion was tabled until December.
- Geauga County is interested in having a combined meeting. The suggestion was made that it be on LCRTA’s meeting time on April 14, 2020 at the Kirtlander, if it is available.
Program ideas were discussed with favor moving toward entertainment. Possible groups might include the Pop Tarts or a trio that Sherry Niederkorn knows. It was also suggested to ask Geauga County for ideas. This might also be a good time for the scholarship committee to have their auction.
- Next General Meeting will be held November 12, 2019 at the Kirtlander.
- Next Board Meeting will be held December 2, 2019 at Kirtland Library.

Terri Herbert moved to adjourn and Sherry Niederkorn seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:30.

Debbie Deal
Recording Secretary