

**LCRTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MENTOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

WELCOME: President Cathy Trepal called the meeting to order at 11:27. Cathy welcomed guest Winn Douglas and new Associate Member Joyce Dick. Chaplain Greta Pate invited everyone to sing “God Bless America” and then offered the prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance followed the prayer.

PROGRAM: Ginny Keller introduced speaker Dale Fellows who portrayed George Washington. Dale gave an interesting talk and then answered many questions concerning Washington’s personal and political life.

LUNCHEON: A catered lunch of chicken salad or veggie wrap, pasta salad, a cookie, water and coffee was served.

BUSINESS MEETING

Secretary’s Report: Tom Moscovic moved that the minutes be accepted as written and Louise Bennet seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Pat Humphrey submitted two treasurer’s reports. The first report from December 31, 2022 stated a total of all monies to be \$13,094.74, which included \$2,544.38 in Scholarship monies. The second report from February 14, 2023 stated a total of all monies to be \$11,991.76, which included \$2,686.40 in Scholarship monies. The reports will be filed for audit. Pat also reported that the audit for 2022 will be held on February 21st.

Social/Travel Report: Lynn Miller submitted two reports. The first report from December 31, 2022 stated a total of all monies to be \$3,784.95. The second report from February 14, 2023 also stated a total of \$3,784.95. The reports will be filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Program: The speaker for the April General Meeting will be Rob McFee from STRS.

Meeting Chair: Sue McCarter hoped members enjoyed the luncheon. Many positive comments were mentioned. The April meeting will be held at Mentor United Methodist Church.

Community Participation: Louise Bennet thanked members for the generous donations. Louise also reminded members to turn in volunteer hours from November to March at the April meeting.

Social/Travel: Kathy Kling reported the following events:

- April 16, 2023 - “Noises Off” at the Beck Center. The deadline to sign up with Sherry Niederkorn is Feb. 17th. The cost is \$66.00 with optional dinner afterwards at Market Street Family Restaurant.
- April 19, 2023 - Sights Unseen in Cleveland. Contact Gail Allcock. The cost is \$159.00.
- May 30, 2023 - Lake County Captains Baseball. Contact Sherry Niederkorn by May 16th.
- June 9-11, 2023 - Mackinac Island and Lilac Festival. The deadline to sign up with Kathy Kling was February 1st.
- June 29, 2023 - “Anything Goes” at Rabbit Run Barn. Contact Sherry Niederkorn by June 1st. Optional dinner at Perry Family Restaurant before the performance.
- September 14, 2023 - Ghost Walk of Willoughby. Contact Gail Allcock.
- October 6-21, 2023 - The Great Rivers of Europe Riverboat Cruise.
- November 28-December 2, 2023 - Cape May at Christmas. Contact Sarah Reinhard.
- 2024 — Visit to Hawaii with cruise.

Legislative: Tom Moscovic reported on the following:

- A published report of an online Neo-Nazi Home School surfaced. In Ohio law, ODE does not review or approve home school curriculum. Senate Democrats have denounced the online homeschool and are calling for stronger oversight of home schooling.
- SB #1 - This is a proposal to neuter the State Board of Education and put the power in the hands of the Governor. This violates the Constitution that was voted on in 1953.
- SB #11 - This would increase money to charter schools, which takes money away from public education.
- SB #14 - This would expand veteran's eligibility to teach without a teacher's license.
- SB #47 - This would prohibit a public employer from providing paid leave or compensation for an employee to engage in certain union business activities.
- Tom encourages members to help by supporting the OEA Fund.

Membership: Karen Sawitke asked members to invite recent retirees to join or to report the names of recent retirees. People can also be an Associate Member for \$10.00.

Scholarship: Tim Niederkorn reported that applications have begun to arrive. The deadline for the applications is March 17th. The applications will be emailed to the committee for scoring on April 7th and the committee will then meet on April 14th to select the finalists that will be notified for interviews. The interviews will take place on April 25th and 26th and the winners will be notified on April 27th.

The Texas Roadhouse Dine-to-Donate raised \$131.79.

The next Dine-to-Donate will be at Spirits of Willoughby on May 17th from 11 am to 7pm (20%)

Sunshine/Remembrance: Ginny Keller thanked Pat Newyear for the many years of sending out cards. Ginny asked members to email or call if they know of someone in need of a card.

Historian: Marion Lipinski has two scrapbooks to view.

Public Relations: Sherry Niederkorn was pleased that articles were published in the Gazette, the Review, and the News-Herald. Sherry also stated that the website is up to date.

Yearbook: Char Langer reminded members to check information in the yearbook to make sure it is correct.

Newsletter: Karen Sawitke was pleased to see that so many people received the newsletter by email without a problem.

Teacher Grants: Karen Sawitke reported that the committee received 9 applications. Eight were from Willoughby-Eastlake Schools and one from Riverside. Four \$300 grants were given to the following teachers: Ashley Tagle from Thomas Jefferson, Mallory Salomon from Thomas Jefferson, Shannon Davis from Royalview, and Jamie McMahon from Longfellow. The money has to go through the school board. Karen thanked the committee and the members that donated. Short reports will be given at the June meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Ginny Keller has volunteered to be the President-Elect for 2023-2024.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Happy Birthday to Barb Strumbel.
- Happy Anniversary to Janene Ishee.
- Marion Lipinski mentioned that volunteers were needed for the James Garfield site. Information cards were available if interested.
- Sarah Reinhard won the drawing for the free lunch.
- Cathy Trepal won \$45.00 in the 50/50 raffle.
- The next Board Meeting will be at Kirtland Library on March 6th at 1:00.
- The next General Meeting will be at Mentor United Methodist Church on April 11th at 11:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45.

Debbie Deal - Recording Secretary