

**LCRTA GENERAL MEETING
KIRTLANDER PARTY CENTER
JUNE 11, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: Karen Sawitke called the meeting to order at 11:30.

Welcome: Karen Sawitke introduced her guest, Anne Hitchcock.

Karen also introduced the four grant winners and guests: Erin Avram, Christine Kelly Chandler, Christy Downs, and Donna Fiore. Donna's guests included Nick Meyer and Mentor Shore Principal, Michael Sears.

Tim Niederkorn introduced the two scholarship recipients and guests: Katherine Patty and father, and Gabrielle Taylor and parents.

Lynn Miller introduced Rosemary Lewis, a member that was attending for the first time.

Invocation: Chaplain Terri Herbert led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Terri also read the poem "Summer Breeze Makes Me Feel Fine" by Shelly L. Baxter and then led the group in prayer.

Luncheon: Members and guests were served roast beef au jus, au gratin potatoes, and vegetable medley or vegetarian pasta. All meals included salad, rolls, and cheesecake.

PROGRAM

Scholarship Winners: Tim Niederkorn thanked the committee members and asked them to stand. Tim then introduced the two scholarship recipients who were each presented a check of \$1200. They are:

Katherine Patty from Mentor High School who will be attending Ohio State University.

Gabrielle Taylor from Wickliffe High School who will be attending Akron University.

Jean P. Lentz Memorial Grant Winners:

- Donna Fiore and her guest, Nick Meyer from Mentor Shore Middle School, presented the "Empty Bowls" Project. The grant money was used to purchase equipment for art students to make clay bowls. Students then sold the bowls at an ice cream social that raised \$2100 as well as 1010 items of food for 68 Hours of Hunger in Lake County.
- Christine Downs, social studies teacher from Willoughby Middle School, used the grant money to hire reenactor John W. King to portray Abraham Lincoln for the 8th grade American History students.
- Erin Avram, science teacher from Fairport Harding High School, used the grant money to help purchase equipment for hands-on learning for 9th grade physical science. The equipment taught students Ohm's Law in showing the relationship between current, voltage, and resistance in simple circuits.
- Christine Kelly Chandler from Madison High School purchased a set of graphic novels by Senor Wooly to be read in Spanish classes. The books also have music videos that students enjoy.

Karen thanked the members of the grant committee and asked them to stand.

BUSINESS MEETING

Secretary's Report: The secretary's minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Humphrey reported a total of all monies as of June 11, 2019 to be \$8355.18, which includes \$156.78 for scholarship. The report will be filed for audit.

Social/Travel Report: Lynn Miller gave a corrected report from the May board meeting. The corrected balance was \$6,394.07. Lynn then reported the total of all monies as of June 11, 2019 to be \$4844.61. The report will be filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Program:** Dave Morse stated that the program for the September meeting would be on the history of breweries in Cleveland.
- **Social/Travel:** Lynn Miller mentioned the following events:
 - “The Secret Garden” at Willoughby Fine Arts on June 12th is closed.
 - The trip to Wooster to see “Girl Crazy” on June 26th is closed.
 - The Falling Waters & Flight 93 Memorial trip on July 11th is closed.
 - The Captain’s Baseball Game is on July 17th. Contact Sherry Niederkorn Rabbit Run Theater to see “My Way” is on August 23th.
 - The trip to Australia & New Zealand is scheduled for October. Lynda Krstolic is planning an open house for all those traveling.
 - Williamsburg Christmas on Dec. 6-9th may have some seats left.
 - The Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta trip is scheduled for Oct. 9-14, 2020.Please fill out the travel suggestion form.
Sherry Niederkorn reminded members to check the website.
- **Legislative:** On May 23, 2019. OEA Vice-President Scott DiMauro testified in opposition to a proposal to change graduation requirements. While the proposal has some positive aspects, it has a fundamental flaw with an overly-rigid reliance on high-stakes testing.
Several teachers that were union building representatives in Lorain Schools were given letters of nonrenewal. Lorain Education Association President Jay Pickering said no reason was given for the nonrenewal and many are filing a grievance.
The Lake County District report card for 2018 rated the following schools:
 - B – Mentor and Perry; C – Madison, Riverside, and Willoughby-Eastlake
 - D – Fairport and Wickliffe; F – Painesville CityRep. Joyce is an original cosponsor of the Social Security Fairness Act. This bill would eliminate the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, two titles that unfairly reduce or eliminate benefits.
Karen Sawitke will send out mailings concerning the lawsuit against STRS to any member that requests it.

NEW BUSINESS

- Karen stated that the Budget Committee needs one volunteer from the general membership. Vickie Stacy volunteered to serve. The committee will meet before the September 23, 2019 board meeting.
- Karen also asked for two members to serve on the Nominating Committee. The position needing to be filled is President-elect. Since no member volunteered to serve on the committee, the names of Sally McIndoe and Jane Pastor were drawn.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Anita Daniels won the free lunch.
- David Morse won the 50/50 which totaled \$84. David donated the money to the Scholarship fund.

Debbie Deal
Recording Secretary