

DEKALB COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

June 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Linda Chapman, recording secretary, at 11:13 a.m. Attendees received copies of the last meeting minutes and they were approved. Joyce McConkey, treasurer, reported we had \$743.30 in the treasury.

Linda introduced Meg Safarik, 'Region 5 representative and is our representative until December. She is with Aurora Retired Teachers and she shared some information about herself that she misses the friendships but not the hustle and bustle of teaching.

She told our guest the advantages of being an IRTA member and that Jim Bachman and Mary Shaw are always available at the IRTA office and are representing us about our concerns. They have helped communicate to legislators about our pension concerns that we will not allow things to be taken away from the retired teachers.

Newsletters and emails to members are emailed weekly when our legislators are in session to keep us informed about bill status or concerns. Members are then able to contact their legislator about the bills or issues they see.

Meg also informed members and guests about AMBA dental and vision, plus the Passport app which allows searches for discounts on dining, Disney, travel, etc. MASA travel insurance is another offering. Meg also told us that IRTAOnline.org web site has lots of information. Passport will be redesigning the IRTA website soon. She encouraged members to review their minutes and/or newsletters on line at the IRTAOnline website, especially if they have had to miss a meeting. Meg also encouraged sharing activities with other locals being included in the outings.

Meg questioned when did people lose respect for teachers and how can we get adults to respect teachers again as that carries through to their children at home. What can current teachers do to improve students' attitudes toward teachers.

Paula Howlett asked her if IRTA is doing anything on the national level since money is going to the voucher system instead of public schools. IRTA board meets and they do not always get what is being decided on at the national level. Meg is going to ask our state IRTA board. Meg shared her email so that members can email her: megsafarik@aartaareairta.org.

Linda announced that a trip for the last week of July was being planned to Barnocopia at Polo and an email would go out with the details. Also, DCRTA presented Cathy Hill, former President, Tom Lampkins with a gift certificate in appreciation of all they did to help restart DCRTA since they are moving to Sun City, AZ

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. for the members to enjoy the buffet lunch in the Oak Crest dining room.

Respectfully submitted

Linda S. Chapman, Recording Secretary
DeKalb County Retired Teachers' Association