

Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel Minutes
Tuesday, October 11, 2016

The regular meeting of the Mid-Jefferson County Retired School Personnel was held at Ritter Senior Citizen Center, Nederland, Texas on October 11, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Lynne James and the invocation was led by Donna Lumpkin. Pledges of allegiance were led by Linda Harrison.

Refreshments were provided by Chairman Candye Martin, Linda Harrison, Jolene LeMaire, Beulah Thompson, and Helen Reynolds. The minutes of the September 13th meeting were emailed to a few members with some distributed for reading at each table. There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved by committee and floor as read. Secretary Donna Lumpkin read thank you notes from the families of Suzi Rose, C.F. LaRue, and Verbie Bryan. Treasurer Loretta Morman stated that as of September 30th, the balance on hand was \$5,991.36. The report was filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Membership – First Vice President Linda Harrison announced that we presently have 249 members, five of which are new retirees and seven who are new members but not new retirees. She encouraged all to “Each One Bring One” to be eligible for the \$100 drawing at the TRTA Convention. She also shared that our Immediate Past President of District 5, R. A. Hildago, encouraged TRTA units to become involved in the community. She had proposed to the Executive Board to partner with the Port Neches Lions Club to collect old glasses and this was approved. She asked that we help contribute to this cause.

Legislative – Chairman Richard Briggs stated that this will be a tough legislative year in that our insurance costs will be much greater in the coming year. He urged us to contact and encourage our legislators with our concerns. He stated that Senator Creighton is under pressure from our Lt. Governor (who is not a friend of retired teachers) and that our defined benefits are in jeopardy.

Yearbook – Chairman Becky Dungan had the new Yearbook ready for distribution and asked that we check our information stated in it. We are to let her know of needed corrections.

Health Care – Chairman Helen Reynolds reminded us that this is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and recognized those in our group who are cancer survivors. She shared that carbohydrates (sugars, starches, and fiber) are not off limits and can be good for us and are a good source of energy (if the right type is eaten). Starches are complex carbs (the healthy type) and should make up 45-65% of our daily diet. These include nuts, peas, beans, oatmeal, apples, pears, and other fruits and veggies.

Protective Services/Memorial & Get Well – Chairman Linda Fong shared that one member, Marie Redding, has passed away. She added that Orlando Vergara no longer drives. She also explained how to prevent telemarketer calls with “NOMOROBO” which is free on a landline and costs \$4.99 per month on a mobile phone.

Technology – Chairman Lynne James stated that the electronic Yearbook will soon be available.

Convention – President Lynne James explained that reservations, parking, etc., will be extremely expensive this year. She has reserved some rooms for delegates and she needs to know who would like to attend. The State Convention will be March 27-28, 2017; Rally Day at the Capitol is March 29, 2017.

Unfinished Business:

The Scholarship Committee (ad hoc) will meet to discuss the requirements for applicants on October 27, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. at the Port Neches Public Library.

New Business: none

Program:

Brian Perkins, Aetna/TRS Care representative, was introduced by Program Chairman Linda Briggs. Mr. Perkins spoke to the concerns of members regarding their health care insurance programs. He then fielded questions from those attending. He also graciously answered personal questions from individuals concerning their health insurance options.

Announcements:

- Newsletter deadline submissions 10/20/16; assembly 10/27/16 at 9:00 a.m., PN Library.
- November 8th meeting – Speaker Stephanie Harren of the Museum of the Gulf Coast
- Hostesses for November – Chairman Candye Martin, Linda Harrison, Jolene LeMaire, Helen Reynolds, and Beulah Thompson.

The business meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m. with 38 members and 10 guests present.

Donna Lumpkin, Recording Secretary