

PCRTA SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the November 12, 2019 Meeting

At 12:00, President Harold Niehaus welcomed 29 members to the PCRTA meeting on November 12, 2019 at St. John Lutheran Church in Ingomar. Thirty-four members were registered but, due to weather, five were unable to attend. Members were greeted by Mary Jo Baker and Marilyn Vanderschaaf. After a blessing by Betty Brenner with a special tribute for Veterans' Day and the Pledge of Allegiance, Harold thanked the church ladies for the meal preparation. The traditional Thanksgiving meal was enjoyed by all.

Janet Crelin moved and Betty Brenner seconded to accept both the secretary's and treasurer's reports. Motion carried. There is \$2346.50 in the checking account. Harold noted what a great job Sharon Norman does in getting us in the newspapers. She had nothing to report. Nancy Wright had nothing on Retirement. Todd and Diane Alexander, new retirees, introduced themselves. Judith Looker reminded us to keep volunteering. She will compile the volunteer hours for the January ORTA report. Marilyn Vandershaar won the drawing for a free PCRTA lunch for her volunteer hours. Phyllis Marling reminded us to say no to everything and informed us that the new smart TVs know everything about us! Don't stop for distressed vehicles if you don't know them. Call 911. There was no Legislative report. \$120 was collected today for Tools for Schools bringing the total to \$333.50. Paul Ellison reported that January 1 marks the official membership year for ORTA. It is the only organization that speaks to STRS about current retired teachers. The website was down a bit in hits.

There was no old business.

New Business – Phyllis White asked if we want to participate in the Christmas for Kids book program for this year. Last year she purchased about 100 books at Ollie's. More than 750 kids received books last year. Nancy Wright moved and Susan Ackerman seconded to pledge \$200 for the Christmas program for books. Motion carried. Help is needed to sort toys at the old L & M building.

Eleven members received door prizes of homemade bread, buckeyes, and decorative cloth pumpkins from Susan Ackerman, Nancy Wright, and Brenda Wright. Thank you, Ladies!

The meeting adjourned to the Sanctuary at 1:11. Since Deputy Austin Snowden was unable to attend the meeting, our own Harold Niehaus, Career Connections Director, presented our program.

After giving a brief history of his various teaching positions, Harold explained his duties as Career Connections Director. He has been hired for two years and has 15 goals to accomplish. He has met with every senior in the county (over 310) for 15 minutes over the last 4 weeks and will try to meet with all juniors at the end of the year. Harold has developed career activities for all grade levels K-12 and will start a Junior Leadership Program for the Chamber of Commerce to begin next month. He recommended the book Grit, by Angela Duckworth, about career choices, parenting, and lots of life lessons. A very informative program!

The next meeting will be April 14, 2020. All retired teachers and school personnel are invited to attend. More information and photos are available at PCRTA.org.

Respectfully submitted, Joanne Evans, Recording Secretary