

Henry County Retired Teachers Association ---- Executive Committee
Secretary's Report
February 16, 2016

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association Executive Committee met at Johnson's Ice Cream on Tuesday, Feb. 16th at 9:00 AM. After a delicious breakfast meal, the meeting was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider.

It was reported that Bob Joseph has audited the books and found everything to be in order. Finances in general were discussed by the group, with possible ways to economize suggested. One suggestion was to find a way to encourage members who are not often able to attend meetings to contribute to our charities. It was decided after discussion to first post a notice in the newsletter encouraging those unable to attend meetings to send in contributions, with perhaps a form included for such a purpose. A mailing for this purpose may be considered in the future.

Projects for the year will be Habitat for Humanity and Together We Can Make A Difference. President Shrider will have collection boxes for each of the charities at each meeting. Contributions will be cash only for both groups.

Directories were handed out to the officers by Steve Seagrave. Thanks were given to Steve for all of his work on the books. Marlene Jones moved, seconded by Sandy Honemann, that we continue as last year with officers receiving their directory for free and any member requesting a copy would be asked to pay \$5.00. Motion passed. Steve noted that he was able to get the printing done at a little better price this year, with the total cost coming to \$169.93 for 40 copies.

Meeting topics for the year were announced as follows:

March--- Habitat for Humanity
May --- Adam Tracey from Children's Lantern, human trafficking
July --- hosting the grant winners and white elephant sale, proceeds of which will go into
Our general fund
September-- Health and fitness for Seniors
November --- James Cain from ORTA
December – musical entertainment

The caterer at each meeting will continue to be Marc Matheny and the menus for the meals are in the directory.

After some discussion, Charlie Meyer made a motion that new tablecloths be purchased for the group, seconded by Steve Seagrave. Bonnie Eddy has faithfully supplied table decorations for many meetings. Becky Schindler volunteered to contact Bonnie to see if she wants to continue with this responsibility, or if she might appreciate help from others. There may be other members who would be glad to take a turn and bring decorations for a meeting or two. President Shrider made note of the fact that she appreciates those members who have volunteered to come early to set up and then take down after the meeting. She suggested that those on this committee may want to come a little earlier, perhaps about 45 minutes before the meeting, so that the tables are ready when most of the group arrives.

A brief discussion was held on the position of chapter chaplain. The primary duty of this person was to say grace before the meals. It was suggested that President Shrider could ask for volunteers to take over this duty at each meeting.

President Shrider will be attending the Spring ORTA conference in Findlay on April 13. Any other member wishing to go may get the reservation form on the back of the ORTA newsletter.

General discussion followed on ways to make our chapter stronger: how to encourage better participation from all of the members, as well as how to attract new members. Nan Bretz, membership chair, contacts potential new members by mail, but a personal contact from a fellow member might make a difference. It was suggested that Nan bring the list of potential new members to a meeting and current members could choose one or two names from the list to make a personal contact. The same goes for current members who have not attended for some time—a personal call to remind about meetings might encourage them to come.

A question was raised about parochial school teachers and if they are eligible to join. President Shrider will contact ORTA to find out what the rules are in this matter.

Steve Seagrave then brought up the need for updates in the by-laws of the Henry County Retired Teachers Foundation. To comply with the rules of the Foundation, the following motion was made by Steve Seagrave (a member of the Foundation Board), seconded by Faith Hurst:

The annual meeting of the Foundation Board will occur during the regular March meeting of the HCRTA, to be held at Oberhaus Park on Monday, March 14 at 11:30 AM. The membership is to be notified by email/regular mail that this meeting will be held. Motion passed

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Wittes, Sec.