

Henry County Retired Teachers Association  
Secretary's Report  
November 13, 2023

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for November 13, 2023 was called to order by President Bev Wittes. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Wittes thanked the set-up volunteers, Jan and Rolland Rettig and Charlie Meyer, and Patty Hill, Diane Meyer, Linda Wagner, Renee Weaver and Pam Schwiebert for hosting. Patty Hill offered the meal prayer and tables were dismissed by points given for 4H connections.

After the luncheon meal prepared by Hill's Catering, Morgan Parcher, Henry County 4H Extension Coordinator/Agent presented a thorough update on the 4H programs currently in Henry County. There are approximately 700 kids ages 5-18 (160 Clover Buds ages 5-7) are involved in a possibility of 250 4H projects, with 250 kids attending Camp Palmer. Parcher manages around 21 Clubs and 121 Volunteers in Henry County as they branch out into many areas such as STEM, Spa, Sewing, Economic and Technology Spin Clubs.

**Committee Reports:**

**Courtesy South:** Sandy Honemann is undergoing surgery for colon cancer. Becky Schindler is recuperating from a broken hip in a nursing home in Grand Rapids.

**Courtesy North:** Mary Jane Myrice passed away.

**Legislative/Membership:** Steven Seagrave passed out a spreadsheet showing the amazingly generous raises and bonuses of the STRS Investment Staff for 2023.

**Public Relations:** Gene Grime

**Community Service:** Jan Schlade recognized Bev Wittes and Steve Seagrave for their most reported volunteer hours.

**Newsletter/Webmaster:** Steven Seagrave continues his volunteer work to update and inform. Charlie Meyer has volunteered his services to assist in the HCRTA Website.

**Historian:** Faith Hurst reports and collects memorable articles of interest.

**Old Business:** Henry County area schools have appreciated the Teacher Supply Boxes. A thank you card from Napoleon Schools was read.

**Nominations Committee:**

- President - Bev Wittes
- Vice President – Charlie Meyer
- Secretary – Nan Bretz
- Assistant Secretary – Faith Hurst
- Treasurer – Gregg Merrill
- Assistant Treasurer – Duane Ressler
- Past President – Charlotte Shrider

The report of the nominations committee has been accepted. Rosalee Ashenfelter made a motion to close the nominations. Seconded by Rosemary Pfau. Election to be held at the December meeting.

Diane Meyer nominated Pam Schwiebert to the Foundation Board. Karen Maassel seconded. Election to be held at the December meeting.

**New Business:** Steven Seagrave recommended that our chapter of Retired Teachers donate to the ORTA Pension Defense Fund. Discussion followed. Patty Hill made a motion to donate \$500 to the ORTA Pension Defense Fun. Karen Maassel seconded. Motion carried by a show of hands.

Diane Buchhop has volunteered to take over the duties as caller for Nancy Schink.

At the December meeting we will be deciding on our charity for next year. Past charities include Lifewise, Project We Care, Together We Can Make A Difference, and The Humane Society.

Also, at the December meeting we will decide on a caterer for the following year. Terri Witt is gathering information. Hills Catering and Mama Mirr were suggestions.

Charlie Meyer announced details for the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. There will be games and singing and each member is asked to bring a gag gift/white elephant for a fun, unique and possibly humorous gift exchange.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Diane Meyer.

Linda Wagner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Renee Weaver seconded.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Meyer  
Assistant Secretary