

## **Minutes of October 7, 2019 MCCRTA Meeting**

The October 9, noon meeting of the Marion City County Retired Teachers, was called to order by President Fred Rode in the Tri-Rivers Auditorium. Lisa Morgan, representing the Marion City Schools, invited members with active licenses to apply for paid hours to tutor under the 21st Century Grant Program. Persons with expired licenses are also eligible for employment at a support staff rate.

Pat Baldinger delivered the invocation and called tables to the buffet. Following the meal, Fred Saull introduced Alex Sheridan who shared an informational slide program and impressive remarks about his company's efforts to revitalize downtown Marion. The presentation touched on many aspects of a mission to create "eco systems" of businesses in focused areas of the downtown district.

President Rode led the Pledge of Allegiance. Fred Saull and Pat Baldinger moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried. Treasurer Pat Lynch affirmed the printed treasurer's report and reviewed the changes resulting from the budget committee's recent recommendations.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

MEMBERSHIP: Monica Granger welcomed new and/or rejoining members, Elaine Dibling, Janet Kruder, Carol Spare, Susan Harraman and Sandy Borland. Door prizes donated by Dennis Swartz, Monica Granger, Eva Blankenship, Karen Fletcher, Diane Morgan, Peggy Hafer, Fred & Margie Saull, Sheryl Skidmore, and Ann McAllister were awarded to Ruth Lutz, Janet Kruder, Joyce Roberts, Connie Thomas, Judy Daum, Joe Morgan, Linda Aufdencamp, Elaine Dibling and Eva Blankenship.

### LEGISLATIVE:

Fred Rode shared R.J. Bicking's report noting that Candidates Night will be held October 22 at Harding High School with the broadcast beginning at 7:30 pm. The Central Ohio Teacher's Association was recognized as celebrating 150 years of service. Senate Bill 166 of the Ohio Legislature has passed both houses. It included \$250 million for "Investing in Ohio's Student Wellness and Success in Schools." Governor DeWine vetoed a provision that would have eliminated some proper certification or licensing of teachers and paraprofessionals. School breakfasts in high poverty districts were expanded. OEA applauded lawmakers for adjusting the value-added grading scale to give districts more credit for improvements. Legislation regarding operation of charter schools yielded mixed accountability requirements. OEA is opposing the expansion of voucher programs in the budget.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Jeanne Keller thanked people for turning in volunteer hours.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES: Linda Dietrich shared language such as "Free, Free Trial, and For 6 Months," to be cautious of in advertising. Also noted was being careful to *read the fine print* to avoid situations such as automatic renewals and unreasonable late payment fees.

PROGRAMMING: Fred Saull announced Angela Crace, of the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program as our speaker for November.

SCHOLARSHIP: Dennis Swartz mentioned that two scholarships will be awarded to Harding this year, and one to Elgin (to fill last year's award). Free calendars for 2020 were available at the back table.

TELEPHONING: Eva Blankenship thanked callers for their work.

NECROLOGY: Pat Baldinger asked for assistance in tracking obituaries for future recognition.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Fred Rode invited members to bring items to the November meeting from a list distributed for Marine Corps Care Packages to be shipped to Iraq. Sandra Novatny invited members to volunteer at the St. Vincent De Paul Society's thrift shop and/or food pantry.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Reminder to provide emails for February newsletter
- Yard signs are available for the Marion County Board of Developmental Disabilities Levy
- Thanks to Tri-Rivers culinary department for the excellent meal and service
- Next meeting: Monday, November 4, 12:00 noon, TRCC Auditorium

The meeting was adjourned,  
Respectfully submitted, Linda Aufdencamp, recording secretary

