

Minutes of September 11 2023, MCCRTA General Meeting

The Marion City County Retired Teachers met at 5:00 pm on September 11 at Tri-Rivers. New member Cheryl Palm Favata was welcomed. Referencing the anniversary of 9/11, President Fred Rode commended teachers who acted as “first responders” for students on that tragic day. Members were encouraged to recruit a vice president, public relations manager and assistant treasurer. Feedback regarding the meals was requested. Pat Baldinger offered the invocation.

Business Meeting: Following the meal, Fred Rode called the business meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Linda Aufdencamp noted a correction to the minutes. Jeanne Keller moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Fred Saull seconded. The motion carried. Pat Lynch indicated that the treasurer’s report was correct as printed on the agenda and it was filed for audit. Reports were presented as follows:

Membership—Monica Granger awarded door prizes from Rita Squires, Pat Baldinger, Peg Hafer, Eva Blankenship, Margie & Fred Saull, Eldonna Ballinger, Linda Aufdencamp and Monica Granger to Kathy Walzack, Betty Anderson, Jan Hoffman, Cheryl Williams, Jack Thompson, Dave Woessner, Rosalie Drazba and Pat Baldinger.

Legislative: R.J. Bicking noted flyers relating to becoming a poll worker and a public meeting about Marion’s preparedness for a hazardous materials disaster. Donations may be contributed to a Pension Defense Fund online at orta.org. Pension money is continuing to be used for questionable STRS staff bonuses. ORTA is raising concerns that public funds will continue to be diverted to private schools in Ohio. Information about a nonpartisan, statewide coalition is available at www.honestyforohioeducation.org. Early voting hours begin October 11.

Community Relations: Jeanne Keller urged members to report volunteer hours at future meetings.

Protective Services: Linda Dietrich shared an AARP list of ten Safety Tips for Senior Travelers including do’s and don’t’s related to motel stays, not advertising your absence via social media, and what to wear and not wear while sightseeing.

Programing: Fred Saull announced programs for October (Palace Lady Tappers), November (Explore-It-Torium), March (STRS Active & Retired Teacher Updates), April and May(to be arranged).

Public Relations/Scholarship: Dennis Swartz shared the text of a Perkins Restaurant placemat advertisement. A change in the Scholarship Program now opens nominations to all schools. Guidance counselors will submit their choice of applicants and the MCCRTA will select the winner.

Telephoning: Eva Blankenship announced that the next meal will be from All Occasions. Extra meals were purchased by a member. Callers were commended for their work.

Website: Cathie Rhoades reviewed the contents of the MCCRTA website which can be accessed most easily by entering the letters MCCRTA in a search bar.

Program: Pat Lynch substituted for the scheduled speaker. She shared knowledge about the Marion Humane Society drawing on knowledge from her years as treasurer and volunteer for the organization.

Necrology: Eva Blankenship, Rita Squires, Pat Lynch, Fred Saull, Fred Rode and Cheryl Williams assisted Pat Baldinger in recognizing the passing of Ruth Webb, JoAnn Van Oosten-Judy, Roger Klepzig, Judy Daum and Michael Terry. Pat Baldinger moved to adjourn.

Announcements:

- Next General Meeting, October 2, 2023 at 12:00 noon at TRCC
- Tri-Rivers Alumni Meeting, October 21st, 2023
- Free hedge apples, tomatoes & ostrich ferns were available after the meeting
- Gift cards mailed to settle an electricity lawsuit are legitimate

Respectfully submitted, Linda Aufdencamp, Recording Secretary