



Northwest Suburban Unit 90 Minutes

Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 10:00 am - at Arlington Heights Senior Center

Meeting called to order by Jane McCauley at 10:03 am.

Attendance: Janice Calvey, Rich Chierico, Bob Lyons, Jane McCauley, Diane Pfister, Reinhard Taylor, Carolyn White and Liz White

1. Minutes November 3, 2021 Minutes were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report (*Reinhard Taylor*) The Treasurer's Report was approved.

3. President's Report (*Jane McCauley*) As a follow-up to last month's discussion about the vice-president being required to assume the presidency at the conclusion of the president's term, it was decided not to make that constitutional change. In lieu of that becoming a duty for vice president, it was decided that all members of the board will make a bullet-point list of their duties which will be available. This might be helpful when someone new takes over a position.

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers:

President: Jane McCauley

Vice President: Bob Lyons

Secretary: Geri Kay

Treasurer: Reinhard Taylor

Those present voted for provisional approval of the slate, pending notification of the membership and an opportunity for members to comment. These officers will serve from Jan., 2022 to Dec. 2023.

4. Unit 90 Events for 2022 (*Liz White*) None scheduled at this time.

5. Committee Reports

Membership: (*Janette Wanner*) There are currently 665 Unit 90 members; 72 of those have memberships that expired at the end of 2021. There are 2217 total State IRTA members from the Unit 90 area. 589 are members of both organizations.

Foundation: (*Diane Pfister*) -No new donations.

Member Benefits: (*Rich Chierico, Janice Calvey*) Nothing new to report.

Communications/Website: (*Reinhard Taylor*) Several of the smaller units have had difficulty finding individuals to volunteer to take officer positions and some have even disbanded.

Volunteer Services: (*Carolyn White*) In response to the December email about volunteering at Salvation Army to assemble holiday meal boxes, Jane and Carolyn volunteered on Dec. 10.

Newsletter: (*Jane McCauley*) The deadline for submissions for our March newsletter is February 21.

Legislative: (*Karl-Heinz Gabbey*) *Karl reported by email:* The General Assembly will meet for the next two weeks. They are officially in session until the end of April (barring any COVID interruptions). Spring months will be a time for campaigning for the June primaries. IRTA members need to pay attention to judicial races. The pension protection clause in the Illinois Constitution may be under siege by some elements in the state. SERS, one of the five underfunded state pension systems, is the pension system for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and is the second largest pension system in the state. Karl communicated to the State IRTA office that a relationship between IRTA and AFSCME might benefit both organizations since they have similar goals.

TRS: (*Bob Lyons*) TRS is the largest pension system in the state. As of the end of the fiscal year, TRS is 42.5% funded, which is the best we have been in several years. Current Tier 2 teachers must work for 10 years to be fully vested in the Retirement system. Many teachers leave the profession before they reach their ten-year anniversary.

Other: The application to be a Unit of Distinction is due later this month. We have reached 19 of the parameters; 18 are needed to be considered for the award.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Meeting Schedule for 2022: First Wednesday of each month (except July and December).
Newsletters in March, May, August and November

Next Meeting on February 2, 2022

Carolyn White, acting secretary