

Northwest Suburban Unit 90 Minutes

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 10:00 am - at Arlington Heights Senior Center

- **Attendance:** Janice Calvey, Richard Chierico, Karl Gabbey, Robert Lyons, Jane McCauley, Diane Pfister, Barbara Riske, Reinhard Taylor, Linda Wallin, Carolyn White
- 1. Minutes (Gerie Kay) January 4, 2023 Minutes were approved.
- 2. Treasurer's Report (Reinhard Taylor) The Treasurer's Report was approved.
- 3. President's Report (Jane McCauley) Area 2 Conference is in April 5 via Zoom. Since it is our normal meeting day, we will discuss it at our next meeting. The IRTA state convention is at Crown Plaza Hotel in Springfield on October 16-17. Some constitutional changes will be suggested to be done before the convention. Scholarships to students due March 7, grants to teachers due June 1 of this year. There are four extra scholarships available, with one being in Kendall County.
- **4. Unit 90 Events for 2022** *(Linda Wagner)* Linda Wagner is suggesting some new ideas for future events: Bowling or bocci at Pinstripes, Botanic Gardens in spring, gambling at Rivers Casino, a Boomers game, or a train ride in East Troy WI. Jane suggested to see the Nachusa Grasslands east of Dixon.

Friday, June 16th, will be our June luncheon and December 7 will be the Holiday luncheon.

5. Committee Reports

Membership: (Janette Wanner) March 31 is last date for people to renew their membership so that they'll be in our 2023 Directory. We needed 130 people to renew, but the number is down to 88 as of today. With those who have paid for several years and the 238 life members, 633 is the total unit membership. 551 are also State IRTA members.

Foundation/Scholarships: (*Diane Pfister*) - In honor of Elinor Reader from River Grove School District 85.5, who died in Oct. 28, 2020, a donation was made of \$50 to the IRTA Foundation.

Member Benefits: *(Rich Chierico, Janice Calvey)* Rich Chierico discussed two handouts. The more members we have, the more power we will have when we lobby. Rich suggested to put together a brochure, include all information in the handouts. How would it be distributed? Diane will help with brochure and distribution. Who should she contact at the state level? Rich said TRS. Approved for fall of this year.

Karl-Heinz suggested printing a business card. Linda suggested the web site and the Facebook page should be on the card.

Janice Calvey has been checking how the new Aetna health insurance is working. All comments were positive. Silver Sneakers is included. Dental insurance will cost more, but will include white fillings in front and in back. Ryan Motola is our contact there. CVS is the recommended prescription handler, others will create greater cost to consumer.

Communications/Website: (Reinhard Taylor) Nothing new to report

Facebook: (Linda Wallin) Nothing new to report

Volunteer Services: *(Carolyn White)* We are scheduled Feb15, 2023 at 9am-10:45 for packing for Feed My Starving Children (740 Wiley Farm CT. Schaumburg). Will make sure there is no limit to number of people who are participating.

Newsletter: (*Jane McCauley*) The next Newsletter is scheduled for March. Submissions are due by March 2. It will be sent out the following weekend.

Legislative: (*Karl-Heinz Gabbey*) The lawsuit re: funding for insurance is ongoing. Working toward a settlement. "Invest in Kids Act" is a back-door voucher program. It will sunset next year. It is a tax deduction for students who are in private schools and is tied into our pensions. It is an attack on public schools, which will have a detrimental effect on future retirees.

TRS: *(Bob Lyons)* New State Superintendent is from U-46. Jim Bachman is retiring next year.

Other:

The meeting was adjourned at ?? am.

Meeting Schedule for 2023: First Wednesday of each month (except July and December). Newsletters in March, May, August and November

Next Meeting on March 1, 2023

Linda Wallin, acting secretary