

## WOEA-R Minutes

Those is attendance were:

Esther Alspaugh, Emmy Brudzynski, Sandy Dobberstein, Deb Drake, Jo Fehl, Yuverdia Irving, Phil Long, Lori Moodie, Debbie Owens, Jane Rahn, Virgenea Robert, Valerie Roldan, Deanna Roth, Karen Shires, Willie Terrell, Wayne Wlodarski

October 20, 2021- This was a very special day because it is the first time the members of WOEA-R were able to gather in person since the Covid pandemic began (Amazingly enough it has been almost 2 years ago since all this began). We had a good turn out of some old and some new or visiting members. Some wore masks, and some did not. Whatever people were comfortable with, they did. We still had some members who did not feel comfortable participating in person, but at least it was the beginning of going back to some type of normalcy. The virtual meetings were helpful since we could not gather in person and will likely continue in some fashion throughout the associations because it has been determined that there are some advantages, but there is nothing like actually getting to see each other in person.

Location- Esther Alspaugh's house near Troy, Ohio. Esther is a retired teacher and member of WOEA-R. She did a presentation on essential oils and how they can help to heal/prevent illnesses and injuries naturally. She told us that these oils are given to us by God in nature from plant products. She told us that doctors don't always know how to heal people because we are all unique. We know our own bodies and have to experiment with what works for us. These natural solutions can greatly boost our immune systems. Esther has monthly workshops that we are all welcome to attend. Each workshop teaches something new about the oils. They give people a chance to share what they have learned about their own experiences with the oils so all the participants can gather ideas from each other to help with their own health journey. There are many people, including Esther, who have had great success using these natural oils. While we were there, we also did a make-it-take-it where we made a special type of natural creme, had lunch and tested out some of her natural drinks. Esther has books where she can look up all sorts of ailments to find out which combinations of these natural essential oils can be used. You can purchase the oils from her, or you can even join yourself, so you can purchase the oils for cheaper prices. Contact Esther Alspaugh if you are interested in participating in her workshops or learning more about her products or experiences with essential oils. Her phone number is: (937) 875-5007.

12:48-Meeting began

**Phil Long-** Gave a synopsis of OEA-R and NEA-R. Mary Binegar is the Chair of OEA-R and Phil Long is now the Vice-Chair.

-Phil Long said that Zoom has been a real benefit in some ways because it saves a lot of time and money by not having to gather people in Columbus. It saves on hotel bills, transportation, food, etc. Plus, it has enabled greater participation for those who can hop on a Zoom meeting versus having to drive all the way to Columbus. They typically have about 20 in-person attendees, compared to about 60-80 at the Zoom meetings.

-Racial Justice sessions have been well attended, enlightening and thought provoking. These sessions were put on by NEA leaders.

-WOEA-R rep Jane Rahn took Sandy Coe's place.

-Pre-retirement workshops

-Still doing Read Across America (Valerie Roldan will be needing volunteers)

-May 17, 2022- Spring conference at Warther's museum in Dover, Ohio. Some WOE-R members may want to go and observe how this is done because we will be hosting this workshop in the near future.

-House Bill 322 and 327- Teachers shouldn't be teaching anything that is divisive in the social justice area. These bills are not even in the education committee where they should be. Teachers can lose their license if caught teaching in this area. Some have already been reprimanded. Read up on these concerning issues.

-WOEA-R members signed cards for Doris Moore's husband who has been ill and Warlita Duvall who was in an accident. Let WOE-R know if there are more members who are going through tough times.

-Debbie Owens does the WOE-R web page.

-All delegates were elected this year by acclamation for the OEA-R rep. They are: Phil Long, Karen Shires, Willie Terrell, and Joni Watson

-The following will serve as WOE-R delegates: Lori Moodie, Yuverdia Irving  
Alternates: Emmy Brudzynski, Jane Rahn

**Debbie Owens**- 11/17/21- Next meeting at the Wandering Griffin 3725 Presidential Dr. Beavercreek, Ohio. Speaker will be a chiropractor talking about health.

12/15/21- Meeting at Franco's. 824 E. Fifth St. Dayton, Ohio. They will have a limited menu. She will need to know who is coming. They'll be collecting books.

**Wayne Wlodarski**- He retired and then went back to work at OEA. He is very thankful that he is not a teacher right now because teachers are suffering. Record numbers of teachers are not returning due to threats from all ends (masks, anti-union groups trying to get people to leave OEA with constant lies, the bills that are censorship issues and keeping teachers from teaching the facts, etc.

-Coshocton Schools- Gave their 10 day strike notice. Others around the state could strike too.

-School boards continue to be divisive.

-They continue to work on fair funding in Ohio. Education is still losing money to vouchers.

**Willie Terrell**- NAACP- He has forms if you want to sign up. WOE-R is already a member.

-They need more support for the fight for injustice.

**Jane Rahn**-

11/17/21- WOE-R rep assembly 5:00 (virtual): There will be 5 sessions: OTEs, local president training, helping students cope in a Covid era, critical conversations with house bills, etc.

-Anyone can attend like usual. Sign up on the WOE-R website.

-WOEA needs to vote in 2 delegates for the WOEa assembly and at least 2 alternates.  
-The following will serve as delegates: Lori Moodie, Yuverdia Irving  
Alternates: Emmy Brudzynski, Jane Rahn  
Phil Long made a motion to accept these delegates and Sandy Dobberstein seconded it.  
Unanimous vote.

4/22/21- WOEa-R rep assembly 5:00

**Sandy Dobberstein**- Treasurer report is in the newsletter.

-She needs someone to be on the bank account because she is traveling a lot now and won't always be home and be able to write the checks in a timely manner. Deb Owens and Lori Moodie both volunteered.

-Discussion took place about who the new WOEa-R chair will be since Phil Long is now Vice-Chair of OEA-R. Sandy Dobberstein nominated Jane Rahn. Jane said she thinks we need to find someone new.

-Sandy Dobberstein thanked Jane for her efforts in putting together this meeting/event.

-People who will be planning the following meetings are:

Debbie Owens: November and December

Doris Moore: March and April

-Wayne mentioned that he needs newsletter articles by Oct. 29. They can include anything that people would be interested in. We can also add anecdotes and human interest things from the RA's. Include anything you think people would like to see. Email the articles to him. The next newsletter after this one will be February or March.

-Phil Long has offered to continue to send out emails even though he is no longer WOEa-R chair.

-NEA Today has an article about Marti Franks from Northeast.

-Rita Walters just completed her term as chair of STRS Board and has been re-appointed to take Robert Stein's position.

-Steven Mitchel is a member of OEA-R, who is also an author.

-Robert Stein was elected to the STRS Board and quit soon after.

1:35- Karen Shires moved to adjourn and Jo Fehl seconded it.