

WOEA-R Minutes

Nov. 15, 2023

Those in attendance: Esther Alspaugh, Emmy Brudzynski, Sandy Dobberstein, Sandy Freeman, Andrea Hirtle, Phil Long, Lori Moodie, Doris Moore, Debbie Owens, Jane Rahn, Val Roldan, Willie Terrell, Joni Watson

Guests: Mary Binegar, Pastor William Moore

Call to order: 11:07

Welcome: Doris Moore

Introductions of all members. We have 2 new members.

Speaker- Michael Unger- Currently teaches at Stiver's in Dayton

Wrote a book, "Teach: Lessons I Learned from My Students and Colleagues, published in 2022. Teach... showcases inspiring stories about his students and some fellow teachers.

All the proceeds for the book go toward scholarships for Dayton Public School students in his wife's name.

-Mary Binegar spoke: The Racial and Social Justice Committee is only about 1 year old, and has been very active. They have a book club every 3rd Monday of the month.

Relevant, engaged, invisible is our theme.

OEA-R will have an activity almost every single month. Relationships with people are important.

Encouraging folks to stay involved in our community. Ex: poll worker (16-hour job in one day but a great experience.

Learn about others and how we can relate and help others.

STRS has been criticized, but Mary said our retirement should be planned based on the sum that teachers were told they would get. The COLA is extra and shouldn't be counted on. We need to make sure nothing happens to our retirement system. She wants our board members to look at the long term to make sure our system is sound. She read criticisms about how much money our investors are making. She wants good quality people there to run our investments. Mr. Neville is going around Ohio to discuss STRS/our pension.

Secretary report- Lori Moodie

Sept. minutes- These are being approved due to illness last month. Sandy Freeman moved to approve the Sept. minutes with a couple editorial changes and then the Sept. minutes were approved. Debbie Owens- 1st; Emmy Brudzynski- 2nd. Vote was unanimously approved.

Oct. minutes- Sandy Dobberstein said she is not doing the budget, so remove that sentence. She said it will need to be the executive committee that sets up a budget. A committee will be discussed. She said she sent the budget information to the executive board.

Debbie Owens- 1st; Sandy Dobberstein- 2nd ; Vote was unanimously approved.

Treasurer Report- Sandy Dobberstein

Sandy said that we are hemorrhaging money right now. We have been pretty consistent until this year. Now we are \$750 below where we should be.

We discussed postage of about \$200 (approx. 100-110 people to send mailings to), but that's because we still have a lot of WOE-R members who don't use email. So, it's important that we send them information via snail mail. Sandy D thinks we need to consider not sending as many things in the mail. We don't have fund raisers. We've sent out 4 mailings this year, when we normally would have done 2 by now. This year we had a special newsletter around the election time and a mailing with the constitution and bylaws possible changes. Joni suggested doing a fundraiser basket. Debbie Owens said she will put it together if people bring her items.

OEA-R committee report- Joni Watson

There aren't enough teachers and sub and problems with superintendents. She's going to have to do an informal round table, pre-retirement and STRS workshop. Brunner literacy is desperate for volunteer tutors (no pay). They're getting 30,000 books from the Disney Corporation. Every child in Dayton Public Schools, Trotwood schools and Kettering schools will receive a book. She discussed the Peace Museum. There is a lot coming up. Annette Johnson can't do uniserve anymore.

Committee Reports:

-Mailing- Willie Terrell- Thanks to Jane and Emmy for helping with the mailing.

-Membership- Jane and Emmy

There have been 2 deaths (Terry Thoreen- life member; Mary Kiray)

Membership handed out information at Fall Forum. OEA-R needs to be informing teachers ahead of time (as actives) so we don't search for them when it comes to trying to sign them up for a membership.

-Sunshine- Debbie Owens

The Sunshine Committee sent out cards to Julie Gregor, Lori Moodie, Doris Moore and Pat Lynch.

Webmaster- Debbie Owens

WOEA.org- Website, WOE-R doesn't show any information for WOE-R on its website.

-NAACP- Willie Terrell

Mary gave the report Willie was going to give.

-Human and Civil Rights- Willie Terrell

Met on Zoom; Might be a violation that a guy in Miamisburg who was running for school board published a teacher phone #; No teacher should be violated.

-Professional Efficacy- Will probably do an activity after the holidays; Chew and Chat is getting 15-20 attendees.

-Happy Trails- Doris Moore

She is going to the meeting today.

-Nomination- Doris Moore requested nominations for Vice President, but no one made any.

New Business:

Scholarship- Phil Long was the chair at the time the scholarship fund was set up. Therefore, maybe he knows how much money we have (maybe in a 2010 newsletter). Phil never gave Doris his information notebook. He gave it to Debbie Owens and then she gave it to someone, but she isn't positive who she gave it to.

-A **motion** was made by Jane Rahn to use \$75 (normally charges \$150) of the WOE-R money to pay for a speaker from Sinclair to present at our December meeting. Jane- 1st; Emmy- 2nd

Discussion- Joni was upset that we are paying for a speaker when Joni got pushback for donating money for her spring conference. It was reminded that we only need to even get approval from the Executive Board if the amount is \$150 or more.

Vote results- I's carry. Motion was approved.

Other comments for the good of the Order:

Joni Watson is wondering why we are doing a business meeting at each meeting. She thought we had agreed to do it at every other meeting. Others think we agreed to do them at every meeting. Joni will check the old minutes to find out.

-Doris Moore has finally been added to the checking account.

Next Month- Dec. 13, 2023: One week earlier than normal, due to the holidays.

Community Service for the year is Artemis at Huber Heights.

Bring your favorite special "family" treat and favorite Christmas party school activity.

Huber Heights library- 11:00

1:49- Adjourn