

**EARTA BOARD MEETING
ETA/IEA OFFICES
ELGIN, ILLINOIS
AUGUST 12, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER President, David Wedemeyer, called the meeting to order at 9:34.

PRESENT: Adrienne Berna, David Brown, Maureen DeDobbelaere, Jean Jederman, Cindy Lange, Kay Lincicome, Barb McGee, Cliff Olson, June Preucil, Coral Reinert, Cindy Ruszkiewicz, David Wedemeyer, Irene Wedemeyer, Mick Williams. **ABSENT:** Susan Frederitzi, Peggy Jurgensen, Karen Patterson, Shelly Singer, Bonnie Skapyak

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Recording Secretary – Kay Lincicome The May 13, 2016 EARTA Board Meeting Minutes were accepted after a correction of a misspelled word. Also, under the Membership Report, it should read that Barb and Cindy, rather than David Brown, sent out 140 letters to retirees for the Pre-Retirement Event. The minutes were accepted as corrected and are on file.

Vice-President – Barb McGee reported that the September 16, 2016 EARTA Meeting will be held at the Elgin Country Club. Luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon. The cost will be \$24.

Treasurer – Jean Jederman reported that as of August 1, 2016, there is \$3344.52 in the checking account, and \$9045.81 in the savings account. Money from the ticket sale for the play "Hamilton" is included in the savings account report. The report will be on file for audit.

President – David Wedemeyer reported that the Community Crisis Center sent a letter thanking EARTA for the donation of \$30 cash, paper towels, toilet paper, diapers, hotel size soaps and shampoos, and 4 canned goods. These items were collected at the May 13th General Meeting. David presented a printed copy of the two-year calendar for EARTA for review and discussion. It consisted of Even Number Years and Odd Number Years and what happens each month for the organization. The only change was eliminating "Present Retired Teacher of the Year" in November (Even Numbered Year). This happens in June, as printed. David passed out a written report, compiled by Jean, itemizing EARTA's income and debit entries for 2014, 2015 and 2016 for 7 months. (Report is on file.) There was discussion on the entries and David commented that in about 10 years we will not be able to function as an organization without a plan to improve income/expenses. There was a discussion on "Ideas to Ponder" on ways to improve financials. Following are ideas that were suggested, and David will revisit these items for discussion for the next board meeting:

Print Directories every other year. New members' names/addresses could be printed on separate sheets in the in-between years.

Charge for Directories.

Print Directories on line.

Re-organize and restructure Pre-retirement Event

Have a White Elephant/Silent Auction sale

Print *Jogger* on line

Charge for the *Jogger*

Reduce font of Directory

Charity revision

Raise dues

50/50 raffles at luncheons

It is questionable about EARTA Board using the IEA facility as we are not affiliated with this organization as retired teachers. Discussion was had concerning the printing price of the Directory. Cindy will investigate prices with Instant-Print. These items will be revisited.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auditing – Peggy Jurgensen The Auditing Committee, David B., Coral, Peggy, and Karen, met. They reported that everything is correct and balanced.

Chaplin – Mick Williams No report

Charity – Coral Reinert The Charity Committee, Coral, Adrienne, Jean, Peggy and the EARTA Board, decided on several organizations to be the recipients of our donations as follows:

\$300 IRTA Scholarship Fund

\$200 Food for Greater Elgin Pantry

\$200 ETA for the Who Excels Scholarship Bowl to aid deserving students planning a career in education.

\$100 The Elgin Local Foundation

\$800 Total

Community Participation – Cindy Lange reported that the Crisis Center will remain our emphasis.

Contact – Bonnie Skapyak David W. reported that \$33 a year is spent on the robo-calls at this time.

Historian – vacant

Informational Services – Maureen DeDobbelaere No report

Legislation – Cliff Olson Cliff read his report from a printed copy which board members received. He highlighted endorsements for the upcoming elections. He stressed that Elgin Area IRTA has 839 members but only 123 have IRTAPAC membership. He strongly encourages “all IRTA members consider the automatic monthly contribution of \$1.00. Political action is very important during this “dark” time. We must support retirees’ views!” Early voting starts October 12th. Cliff’s written report is on file. Cliff suggested that a letter be sent to Christina Castro and Anna Moeller confirming EARTA’s endorsement of them.

Membership – David Brown reported that he has the new membership forms for EARTA. He has a supply of envelopes from IRTA for anyone who might need them. He announced the change of address and phone number for board member, Shelly Singer, to be added to our directories. He reminded us that EARTA membership is open to private school teachers to be associate members. They would pay regular local dues and reduced state dues. Spouses of EARTA members can be associate members, also.

Jogger Mailing – Karen Patterson A report was given stating that there are 475 *Joggers* being printed for mailing. This includes 21 St. Charles teachers. A committee of Dave, Coral, Karen, Maureen, Barb and Irene will meet at the Greens on Wednesday, August 17th, 1:00, to assemble the *Jogger* for mailing.

Jogger Editor – Cindy Ruszkiewicz thanked the board for getting reports in to her on time to print in the next *Jogger*.

Nominations – Adrienne Berna announced that the Vice-President and Recording Secretary are to be elected in the odd year (2017). Nominees are the current officers, Barb McGee, Vice President, and Kay Lincicome, Recording Secretary.

Pre-Retirement – Barb McGee, Cindy Lange Irene Wedemeyer will serve on this committee as chairperson of New Members.

Programs – Shelly Singer At the September 16th General Meeting, Chris Gluck will be our speaker. He will present the IRTA **AMBA Benefits Program**. There will be a question/answer time following his presentation.

Social – Coral Reinert The Supper Club met on Monday, August 8th, at Hooper's Bar and Grill. The next Supper Club will meet on Monday September 12th at 5:30. Members and guests are all invited. Epicurean Adventure will meet on August 18 at Ellwood Steak and Fish House in DeKalb. On September 21, the group will meet at Patten House, Geneva. Any questions, call Karen Patterson or Irene Wedemeyer. The tour into Chicago to see the production of "Hamilton" is Sunday October 30th. If you bought a ticket but are unable to attend, please call Coral as there is a Waitlist of 18 hopefuls.

Website – June Preucil There was discussion as to what the "traffic" number on our Website has been this last year. June will investigate what has happened in 2016 and report back at the next meeting.

STATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

State Legislation – Cliff Olson Report is on file

OLD BUSINESS

The TRS Meeting will be in our district this year.....a first. It will be on September 21st at Larkin High School. There will be explanations of various benefits. TRS will also have a meeting at Jacobs High School, Algonquin, on November 3rd. Both of these are opportunities to meet future retirees face-to-face. They will be able to learn about benefits of IRTA. David B. will hand out the EARTA tri-fold pamphlets.

Anything Else for the Good of the Order?

There is an IRTA Foundation application for assistance available for any teacher who will present a proposal that needs funding. There is money available (about \$250 per teacher) and the application needs to be in by September 2nd. It was suggested that this announcement be placed on the U-46

Website. The Historian Committee is in need of a chairperson. This will be mentioned at the September 16th Luncheon. A suggestion was made that Jerry Turnquist would be an ideal candidate.

Adjournment – David Wedemeyer adjourned the meeting at 10:50.

Calendar

August 18, 2016.....6:00 – Epicurean Adventure, Ellwood Steak & Fish House, DeKalb
September 12, 2016.....5:30 – Supper Club, Hoopers
September 16, 2016.....11:30 General Meeting, Elgin Country Club
September 21, 2016.....6:00 – Epicurean Adventure, Patten House, Geneva
October 10, 2016.....5:30 – Supper Club, Hoopers
October 14, 2016.....9:30 – EARTA Board Meeting, IEA Offices
October 30, 2016....."Hamilton"

Respectively submitted
Kay Lincicome –Recording Secretary