

Minutes of the  
Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 10, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting of the Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association Board of Directors was called to order by JCRTA President Susan Thurman at 10:10 a.m. She welcomed all in attendance, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Susan welcomed KRTA Executive Director, Tim Abrams, who gave an update on TRS and Baptist Health issues regarding health care. The good news is that members of TRS have a Passive PPO health plan and that the issues do not affect us. He noted that we may be getting a letter from Baptist Health, but that TRS can be contacted for information.

Board Members Present: Beth Dowdell, Ken Draut, Debbie Dunn, Cindy Goldstein, Pam Gooch, Ann Hafling, Marilyn Hazard, Vicki Lete, Sahara Myers, Martha O'Bryan, Tara Parker, Lue Peabody, Mary Perry, Marilyn Puckett, Susan Thurman, Donna Wiseman, Melanie Wood.

Members Absent: Sheila Carson-Smith, Myra Fugate

Recording Secretary: Marilyn Puckett provided copies of the minutes of the previous meeting on June 20, 2023. The minutes were approved as corrected for the KRTA Representative: "Tara Parker was absent. However, she sent copies of her report of the Executive Council meeting which was held on June 5, 2023."

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Melanie Wood and seconded by Donna Wiseman. The motion passed.

1 st Vice-President: The position is vacant. It was reported that to date \$770.00 has been collected for school supplies. A committee including Susan Thurman, Sahara Myers and Mary Perry will meet to decide where the funds will go. It was also

announced that the December General Meeting program will include the Atherton High School Chorus.

Treasurer: Mary Perry provided copies of the treasurer's report. Mary briefly discussed service charges on the 5/3 checking account and noted that the treasurer's and president's names are on the account. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

2 nd Vice-President: Pam Gooch presented a summary of the attendance of the past seven JCRTA General Meetings. There was discussion regarding lighter luncheon menus in 2024 to be able to keep the reservations at \$20 per person. Some suggestions included salads, soup or pasta, and dessert. Pam will work with the staff at Wildwood to come up with the menus.

Corresponding Secretary: Debbie Dunn reported that newsletter articles will be due by October 20.

KRTA Representative: Tara Parker reported that the last KRTA Executive Board Meeting was held on August 21, 2023.

☐ KRTA accounts were reviewed. Henry Hensley from Henry Hensley and Associates, Inc., will work with KRTA Executive Director Tim Abrams to put together an investment policy.

☐ Membership Co-Chair, Debby Murrell reported that as of October 3, 2023, KRTA membership is 31,152.

☐ Health and Insurance Co-Chair, Margaret Sims discussed pending formulary changes in the under 65 KEHP program.

☐ Lists of each district's Legislative, Membership and Health and Insurance Committees were presented.

☐ Executive Director Tim Abrams discussed the Fall Workshops Schedule with the first being on Friday, August 25, 2024, in Jefferson County.

☒ KRTA will be putting the ADD (membership) card online after the website is updated.

☒ KRTA will be celebrating “Retired Teacher Appreciation Week” during the week of October 16-20, 2023.

#### Committee and Chairperson Reports

**Audit and Budget:** Ann Hafling reported that the audit was completed and everything was found to be in good order. The budget for 2024 was approved at the last General Meeting on August 25, 2023.

**Community Liaison:** Donna Wiseman reported on an opportunity for volunteers at the upcoming International Film Festival. President Susan Thurman suggested that volunteer opportunities be announced in the fall and spring.

**Insurance:** Lue Peabody announced an upcoming meeting with Jane Gilbert of TRS. Lue will keep the membership informed of changes or updates. She noted that calls to TRS are always welcome.

**KRTA Membership:** Tara Parker reported for Sheila Carson-Smith that the current KRTA membership is 31,152.

**JCRTA Membership:** Marilyn Hazard reported that the current JCRTA membership is 1,131. Ken Draut will reach out to 300 retirees who were members last year but have not renewed their membership this year. Increased interest has been shown in renewing memberships online by credit card.

**Legislative:** Beth Dowdell reported that we were fortunate that the legislative session in Frankfort ended with no bills passed that directly affect our membership. Our legislative priorities remain largely the same for the 2024

session:

☒ To fully fund the Teachers' Retirement System in accordance with the states pension statute.

☒ Maintain the defined benefit system currently in place for Kentucky's retired, current and future teachers.

☒ Fully fund the statutorily required obligation to the TRS Medical Insurance Fund as required by the Shared Responsibility Law.

☒ Maintain the current TRS board structure.

☒ Oppose any legislation that would result in higher prescription costs for Kentucky's retired teachers.

A few bills are being watched that were presented in committees last session, although it appears as though nothing has changed their status. Any news from Frankfort affecting our membership will be monitored while committees meet prior to the General Assembly reconvening on 1/2/24. There will be a Legislative Committee meeting in November, shortly after the gubernatorial election.

Nominating/Elections: Melanie Wood nominated Vicki Lete to fill the position of 1st Vice-President. A motion was made by Tara Parker to approve, seconded by Debbie Dunn. The motion passed. Vicki will then be presented for election at the December 7, 2023, General Meeting.

Necrology/Remembrance: No report, however, Sahara Myers offered an opportunity for free tickets to hear the Louisville Master Chorale on Sunday, October 15.

Technology: Ken Draut reported that there are around 4,000 hits per month on the web site. The Email blast system can be used if needed. He encouraged members of the board to check their own web spot and update if needed. He noted that there is a credit card option for donations on the website.

Trips and Tours: Martha O'Bryan announced a change in travel agencies for JCRTA. Knights Travel Agency was presented for approval. A motion to approve was made by Ann Hafling and seconded by Lue Peabody. The motion passed. A planned Mediterranean trip will be postponed in light of current events in the Middle East. Two proposed trips with Knight Travel include: The Canadian Island, June 3-11, 2024, and Florida (Amelia Island, St. Augustine and Jacksonville) September 15-21, 2024.

Scholarship: No report.

KRTA/AARP: No report, however, Cindy Goldstein will meet with Susan Thurman regarding sending out essay contest information to JCPS when things stabilize.

Old Business:

Donna Wiseman volunteered to look into and get current information regarding an AARP Driving Exam for 2024. Senior citizens who take the course online or in-person are eligible to receive discounts on auto insurance. She will report on fees, age range, etc.

Meeting dates as listed in the agenda have been confirmed.

New Business:

None. The next General Meeting will be held at Wildwood Country Club on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Puckett, Recording Secretary

