

**Minutes of the  
Jeferson County Retired Teachers Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 13, 2020**

**Call to Order:** The virtual meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m., moderated by Ken Draut. President Dale Warren welcomed everyone and Sahara Myers gave the invocation and led the pledge.

**Board Members Present:** Dale Warren, Sahara Myers, Pam Gooch, Marilyn Puckett, Mary Perry, Debbie Dunn, Rick Tatum, Ann Hafling, Ken Draut, Sheila Carson-Smith, Susan Thurman, Lue Peabody, Marilyn Hazard, Tara Parker, Melanie Wood, Martha O'Bryan.

**Board Members Absent:** Michael Jones, Donna Seaford, Maritza Cassady, Bonnie Wantland.

**Recording Secretary:** Marilyn Puckett presented the minutes of the previous meeting on July 14, 2020. A motion was made by Rick Tatum and seconded by Mary Perry to accept the minutes as printed. The motion passed.

**Treasurer:** Mary Perry presented the financial report, which was approved and will be filed for audit. There was a question regarding the tax status of the JCRTA. Mary will check into it.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Sahara Myers reported that 65 school supply boxes were collected and donated to Rutherford Elementary. Donations totaling \$649.27 were collected for Olmstead Academy. Suggestions were discussed regarding the General Meeting to be held in December. An option would be a Zoom webinar similar to the KRTA workshop. Sahara will explore some of the options for speakers and music. Dr. Pollio was suggested as a speaker, if available.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Pam Gooch had no report since there have been no in-person meetings.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Debbie Dunn reported that newsletter articles for the November newsletter be turned in by Tuesday, October 27.

**KRTA Representative:** Rick Tatum reported that the KRTA Executive Council met virtually on August 24, 2020. The major focus of the meeting was to update everyone on the workings of the various organizational committees. In various areas Rick reported the following:

- We are to never use our Medicare cards for medical services. The only cards we are to be using are United Healthcare and Express Scripts.
- The Grandparent Essay Contest has been suspended for this year because of Covid-19. The school supplies and food drives will be combined.
- The videos of the fall workshop can be viewed on line.
- The membership goal for KRTA is 32,821 for this year. As of the August workshop, the membership was 31,550.
- A proposal was made and approved that KRTA enter into a contract with Strategic Advisors to work on a communication plan.
- A KRTA Constitution Update/Revision Ad-Hoc Committee was appointed. The constitution had not been updated since 2008. Melanie Wood and Tara Parker are Co-Chairs.
- KRTA financials were reviewed and approved by the Board.

## **Committee Chairperson Reports**

**Audit and Budgeting:** Ann Hafling went over the budget. Mailings are the biggest expenses. The general meetings cost more than the income from registrations. Funds used for luncheons are left over since we have not had in-person meetings. There are funds to do a Webinar if needed. Other areas discussed included going from giving one scholarship to two scholarships. Melanie Wood suggested assisting the Beauregard Fund to help retired teachers who need assistance. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting in January. A motion to approve the budget was made by Rick Tatum and seconded by Tara Parker. The motion was approved.

**Legislative:** Susan Thurman reported on Teach KY, a branch of Teach America which recruits students who have not had teaching courses to be teachers. Mentors are needed for them. All eyes are on the upcoming election. The focus of TRS is to fully fund the trust fund, keep the Defined Benefits program, and to keep the structure of the board the same. There has been a lack of networking in Frankfort because of the pandemic. A potential House Bill to require teachers to not retire until age 70 would impact future teachers. KRTA would have to play a more aggressive role to support those who are nearing retirement age.

**Insurance:** Lue Peabody reported that a KRTA insurance meeting will be held in November. There will be an article in the November newsletter and information will be given to Ken to post on the website.

**JCRTA Membership:** Marilyn Hazard reported 33 memberships in September. Membership has declined somewhat over the past two years. Ann Hafling suggested a mailing in April to every retired member, around 6,000. She said there are funds available. Her suggestion will be considered.

**Remembrance:** Tara Parker reported that 23 cards were sent to families of deceased for August and September. She requested help in receiving names and addresses of deceased so cards may be sent out as soon as possible.

**Necrology:** No report.

**Nominating:** Melanie Wood reported that nominations in 2021 will be for President, first Vice President, and Treasurer.

**Scholarship:** No report.

**Trips and Tours:** Ruth Boone is retiring from the JCRTA Board as co-chair of Trips and Tours. Ruth was thanked for her many years of service and the board wishes her well. Martha O'Bryan will be continuing in her Trips and Tours position and would like for Katie Foley to be the assistant. There are trips to Charleston and the Danube to the Black Sea which are scheduled but on a "wait and see" basis because of the pandemic.

**Trips and Tours Treasurer:** No report.

**Technology:** Ken Draut continues to encourage the use of the JCRTA web site.

**KRTA/AARP:** No report. The position is vacant.

**Old Business: None.**

**New Business:** Melanie Wood brought up an issue regarding liability for Trips and Tours which had been discussed with Dr. Abrams and Rebecca Murrell, the JCRTA attorney. It is advised that a travel agent, who would be responsible for anything that happens, needs to handle the trips. Also, someone other than the organization should handle the money. The board of directors could be held liable, individually, in a lawsuit. The board cannot carry an umbrella policy. Martha O'Bryan pointed out that prices for the trips would rise significantly if an agent handles them, and that as a non-profit we should not be making money. She already knows of a potential company, but it was suggested that she get bids from at least three agencies to find the best fit for JCRTA regarding safety regulations, potential claims of negligence, liability coverage, waivers, etc. Martha will check with 3 companies and present her findings at the next board meeting.

Ann Hafling asked what to tell new retirees regarding the December 5 General Meeting since it will not be in person, but possibly on Zoom. It was suggested that Barbara Jacobs go ahead and send a fact sheet and membership form to each new retiree along with a basic letter.

Rick Tatum will help Dale Warren come up with a certificate and/or some type of token of appreciation to present to those who retire from the board.

The next General Meeting will be Saturday, December 5, 2020. The next JCRTA Board meeting will be Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Puckett, Recording Secretary