

**Minutes of the  
Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association  
October 12, 2021**

**Call to Order:** The meeting of the Jefferson County Retired Teachers Association was called to order by President Susan Thurman at 10:05 a.m. Susan welcomed those in attendance and introduced Beth Dowdell, the new legislative representative, and Barbara Jacobs, who contacts new retirees. 1st Vice-President Sahara Myers gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**Board Members Present:** Susan Thurman, Sahara Myers, Pam Gooch, Mary Perry, Marilyn Puckett, Rick Tatum, Ann Hafling, Sheila Carson-Smith, Beth Dowdell, Marilyn Hazard, Martha O'Bryan, Ken Draut.

**Board Members Absent:** Debbie Dunn, Lue Peabody, Melanie Wood, Donna Seaford, Tara Parker, Dale Warren.

**Recording Secretary:** The minutes of the previous meeting on July 13, 2021, were presented by Marilyn Puckett. The minutes were approved as corrected with the correct spelling of Steve Flairty's name.

**Treasurer:** Mary Perry presented the treasurer's report. The report was approved as printed and will be filed for audit.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:** Sahara Myers reported that the back-to-school collection had been designated for Portland Elementary this year. \$590 was collected and she shopped for items that they had requested. The type of program for the General Meeting on December 7 was discussed. She will go ahead and book the speaker from the Frazier Museum. She will work with Wildwood Country Club and move forward with plans for the meeting.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:** Pam Gooch reported that she is working with Wildwood regarding set-up, reservations, etc. for the December 7 meeting. The deadline for reservations for the December 7 meeting will be November 30.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Debbie Dunn was not present, but it was determined that newsletter articles should be submitted to her by October 22.

**KRTA Representative:** Rick Tatum reported on some of the items discussed at the last meeting of the KRTA Executive Council:

- The current status of the financial investments of the organization. KRTA has two accounts: The KRTA Reserve Funds and the N.O. Kimbler-Bouregard Foundation Fund. The annual audit revealed good management of KRTA funds and continued growth of the funds.

- The membership goal for 2021-22 is 32,822. Current membership is 31,574.
- The Health and Insurance Committee encouraged all retirees to get vaccinated.
- United HealthCare extended the deadline for getting a gift card for an annual Wellness Visit until December 30, 2021.
- The recent census, just concluded, can redraw legislative districts in Kentucky. Don Hines is stepping down as Legislative Co-Chair. Allan Schuler and Marshall Ward will be serving as co-chairs with Larry Woods.
- Grandparent Essay submission date is December 15, 2021, for the school winner and March 1, 2022, for the district winner.
- Deputy Executive Director of KRTA, Janie Caslowe, will retire December 31, 2021. Assistant Office Manager Charlotte Lindley will retire June 30, 2022.
- A new KRTA Volunteer Leadership Position will be established. They will oversee the Volunteer of the Year Award and Cathy Gullett Service Award.

### **Committee Chairperson Reports**

**Audit and Budget:** Ann Hafling reported that the annual audit had been completed. Barbara Jacobs noted that there had been 380 new retirees since the last in-person meeting in March of 2020. All new retirees from March 2020 through September 2021 will be invited to the General Meeting on December 7.

**Community Liaison:** Ken Draut reported that volunteer hours are due soon, as well as nominations for JCRTA Volunteer of the Year. He mentioned that nonprofit community groups who need volunteers may place ads on the JCRTA website.

**Insurance:** Lue Peabody was unable to attend but will have information in the upcoming newsletter and will make a report at the December 7 meeting. An information form regarding Open Enrollment for MEHP participants was available.

**KRTA Membership:** Sheila Carson-Smith reported on the LouCity Soccer outing. There were 17 who attended and everyone had a great time.

**JCRTA Membership:** Marilyn Hazard reported a total of 1,517 memberships. Several members had overpaid. Members are reminded that dues are for one year only and that any extra is counted as a donation. A list of new volunteers was included in her report.

**Legislative:** Beth Dowdell will attend the upcoming legislative meeting in November. They are still focused on the following priorities:

- Restore funding to the Medical Insurance fund as required by HB540, the 2010 Shared Responsibility Law.
- The General Assembly must continue to fully fund TRS.

- The General Assembly must maintain the Defined Benefit System for current and future retired teachers.
- Make no changes to the Board of Trustee structure of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.

**Nominations:** No report.

**Necrology:** No report.

**Remembrance:** No report.

**Technology:** Ken Draut encouraged members of the board to go to the website JCRTA.org, and check out their areas including forms and links. Ken reported that 2 or 3 email blasts per month may be sent out, if needed. He also encouraged members to check out the Facebook page. The Board of Directors list will be updated.

**Trips and Tours:** Martha O'Bryan reported that the trip to Vermont was great. The next trip will be to the Ark Encounter on December 10. The Charleston trip is scheduled for May 16-21, 2022.

**Scholarship:** Vacant.

**KRTA/AARP:** Vacant.

### **Old Business:**

The next General Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at Wildwood Country Club. Dates for 2022 board and general meetings are being reviewed. The dates scheduled will be as close as possible to the previous dates.

### **New Business:**

- A service project was suggested to collect monetary donations for Blessings in a Backpack. Donations will be due by December 31. Checks should be made out to JCRTA and mailed to Mary Perry, 640 Circle Valley Dr., Louisville, KY 40229. Donations will also be collected at the next General Meeting on December 7.
- It was noted that Kentucky Retired Teacher Appreciation Week is October 18-22.
- A 2021 KRTA Fact Sheet was reviewed.
- The KRTA Convention will be April 18-19, 2022, at Holiday Inn Hurstbourne.
- There are teaching opportunities at full pay with JCPS for retired teachers.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Puckett, Recording Secretary

