

NFCRTA Executive Board Meeting
September 22, 2011

The Executive Board Meeting of the NFCRTA was held at Armando's Restaurant on Thursday, September 22, 2011 at 12:00pm. The meeting was called to order by President Bob Scalzo at 12:05pm.

Present: Rick Cassar, Julianne Gallagher, June Jones, Libby Kasimer, Joretta Kilcourse, Rose Paonessa, Kay Santoro and Bob Scalzo

Absent: Jerry Hyland

President's Remarks:

1. Earl Smith wishes to donate \$1000 to establish a scholarship in memory of deceased Past Presidents and Vice Presidents Norman Kabak, Alfred Cipriani, Joseph Tarrant and Lous DePaul. The scholarship would be given to a student who planned to pursue a teaching career in Unified Arts/Vocational Arts. He would like to speak on behalf of his proposal at the October luncheon. After discussion, the Board asked Bob to contact Mr. Smith for clarification of several questions raised by members of the Board.
2. How do we bring in younger retirees to NFCRTA? What motivators can we use to attract them?
3. Libby Kasimer suggested a welcoming breakfast and the Board felt that this was an excellent idea.
4. How do we increase our membership?
Bob talked about doing a You-Tube video but our webmaster, Joretta Kilcourse, said that it would be too expensive for us to do. Another suggestion was to send out via e-mail information on issues affecting retired teachers. However, it is difficult to obtain e-mail addresses because many people are reluctant to give them out.
5. Bob talked about the need to have Co-Chairs for each Executive Board position. This will be on the agenda for the October luncheon meeting.
6. The Governor has restored the state contribution to the HIPA account.
7. Health News:
Everyone is encouraged not to sign up for the AARP Medicare Supplement Plan. They will not pay twice if you have the Stirling Benefits Plan. Cost of the Stirling Plan is 1/3 the cost of the AARP Plan. Some people are paying for both plans and this is too expensive. On December 31, 2011, the Stirling Plan is going up by \$1.00.
8. Social Security has enough money on hand to pay full benefits for the next 25 years.

9. Bob commended Rick Cassar for his efforts as Chairman of the ARTC PAC. Rick has resigned from this position.
10. Scholarship Committee Chairperson Kay Santoro read a thank you note from Jessica Wade, Bethel High School graduate who received one of our scholarships in June, and also, a thank you note for flowers sent to the DePaul family when Louis DePaul passed away.
11. June Jones, Membership Chairperson, said that we have 354 members. However, only 78 have paid dues so far this year.
12. Bob asked about the feasibility of paying dues online. Joretta said that this would be too expensive.
13. Three year membership: This was not looked upon favorably because it would affect funding for our scholarships.
14. Bob mentioned Survey Monkey, which he thought we could use for information gathering purposes but Joretta felt that it would be too expensive.
15. Joretta Kilcourse spoke about activities at the Danbury Museum and other issues affecting our website.
16. Newsletter: Rose Paonessa will do a letter for the October luncheon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50pm.

Respectively submitted,
Julianne Gallagher
Recording Secretary