

GCRTA a Chapter of ORTA
Executive Board Meeting
February 14, 2023
Geauga County Public Library Administration Building

President Pat Cataldo called the meeting to order. Members in attendance were **Cheryl Sekura, Carane Ladd, Patrick Cataldo, Jean Paine, Kay Zurbuch, Marlene Napalo and Debbie Gallagher.**

President Patrick Cataldo thanked **Cheryl Sekura** and **Jean Paine** for putting together the February luncheon.

Pat Cataldo shared that he received an Email from **Lucy Liang.** A new private school, Global Connection Academy, is being formed in the old Ledgemont School and she wanted to connect with us to see if we wanted to collaborate with them. **Pat** will call her to get more information.

Our next board meeting will be held April 25th at 10 AM

Debbie Gallagher distributed the minutes from the February 7th luncheon. **Marlene Napalo** made a motion to accept the minutes as read. **Cheryl Sekura** seconded the motion, which passed.

Treasurer's Report: by Judy Miller, Treasurer

Checking account balance: **\$1,498.28**

Grant-in-Aid balance: **\$5,580.26**

Education Grant balance: **\$734.10**

Investment Acc. balance: **\$11,361.25**

All bills have been paid. Judy would like to have the 2022 audit completed in April.

Programs: Cheryl Sekura and Jean Paine- Our next luncheon will be held at Fowlers Mill on April 4th. The speaker, **Judge Terri Stupica,** will talk about the most serious legal issues she faces in her court.

June 6th luncheon will be held at the E.O.U.V. **Wade Steen** an STRS board member will be the speaker.

August 1st Potluck luncheon will be held at the Bond Activity Center at Century Village.

Community Services: Patrick Cataldo read a letter from **Sara Shining**, thanking us for our donation of food for the Sponsor a Family Program sponsored by Geauga Family Services. Thank you letters from the different families were passed around for us to read.

Legislation: Cheryl Sekura- Cheryl sent out, by e-mail, information on the Neo Nazi home schooling taking place in upper Sandusky, the pros and cons of the governor's budget as it pertains to education. STRS meetings will now be live streamed starting with the Feb. 16th meeting. You must sign up and then they will send you a link.

Cheryl is working on the "How to Reach Your Elected Officials" document.

Membership: Jean Paine- We are delighted to introduce our newest members! **Karen L. Miller** from West Geauga Schools, **Holly Norton** from Kettering Schools, **Tami McGrattan** from Evansville, Wisconsin Schools, **Mary Argo** from South Euclid-Lyndhurst Schools, and **Patricia (Pat) Brockway** from Kenston Schools. We are thrilled to introduce you to a brand-new member who immediately became a LIFETIME member! **Polly Churchill**. **Beth Emmons** became a LIFETIME member!

We would also like to thank our own members who encouraged others to join us. **Lisa Ciocia**, who brought a guest and a new member, **Mary Argo**. **Tami McGrattan**, who brought her husband, **Jerry**, a prospective member. **Gloria Brach**, **Rita Pressman** and **Judy Miller** encouraged **Pat Brockway** to join GCRTA! **Brian Schaner** encouraged **Polly Churchill** to join while at the February 7, 2023 luncheon. We look forward to seeing these new members at future luncheons!

Hospitality: Debbie Gallagher gave Gigi Vartola's report. **Dorothy Waddington**, one of our members, passed away on January 19th. An address is needed to send the family a sympathy card.

Get well cards were sent out to **Sandi Kovan**es who had back surgery and to **Vicky Vedor** who had ankle surgery.

Sympathy cards were sent to **Becky Miller**, for the death of her husband and **Bobbi Robertson**, for the death of her husband.

Miriam Gilson received a card to let her know we are thinking about her.

Historian: Kay Zurbuch is beginning to organize items starting with December and working backward. She is also sending photos to **Cindy Spikell** for *News You Can Use*.

Teacher/Education Grant: Judy Miller- a volunteer is needed to help **Judy**.

New Business:

We will donate \$250.00 to the Geauga County Public Library toward their Mimi Golf event.

Jean Paine announced that the Huntsburg Grange will have a Chili Cookoff on March 18th from 11:30 to 2:30 at the Huntsburg Community Center (old Huntsburg School). The announcement will go into the *News You Can Use*. We need to support the Grange because they generously donate \$500.00 toward the Teacher/Education Grants.

Cheryl asked what should be done about the GCRTA Directory. After some discussion, it was decided that a supplemental list of new members will be given to the members who want it. Then some research needs to be done into the cost of printing a new directory. The last directory was dated 2021-2022.

The GCRTA website will be up and running in March. **Stevie** is using squarespace.com as our platform. It is rated 4th on Forbes list. The old web site will be gone when the new one is up and running.

We need to apply for 501-C3 non-profit status to be tax-exempt. There are many steps involved in applying for this. Someone needs to step up and tackle this task. Someone suggested speaking to one of our members who also is an attorney.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Gallagher
Recording Secretary