

Minutes of CWZ Executive Meeting  
Thursday, March 5, 2020  
The Legacy, Victor, NY

The meeting was called to order by Co-President Robyn Ballard at 10:00 am with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Frank Berger offered a quote from Harry S. Truman, "*America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.*"

**CARES AND CONCERNS** - Joan Handfield is having some health concerns. Robyn has a new granddaughter. Georgia Thomas is celebrating the success of her children's book, Ellen's Elephant.

**SECRETARY'S MINUTES** - The Minutes of the November 7, 2019, meeting were presented. Frank Berger made the motion, seconded by Judie Byndas, to accept the Minutes with one correction. Bulk Mail must have 200 (or more) pieces, not 500. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Betty Pilato - copy attached. The finances are now on the calendar year. The Checking Account Balance as of December 31, 2019, was \$43,732.44. Thanks to Sharon Croucher and John Hogan for auditing the books. Betty hopes to have this job completed by three individuals in the future. The Presidents' Appeal was \$5,664.00 as of December 31, 2019. An additional \$290.00 has been received. The balance in the Checking Account as of March 5, 2020 was \$43,922.38. NYSRTA sent us a check for \$400.00 that was supposed to go to Central Zone, and it was returned. A motion was made by Frank Berger, seconded by Bruce Croucher to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

**MEMBERSHIP** - Jane Crosby submitted the membership totals for October, November, December, and January which continue to show a decline. Unit Presidents are working to update and verify the membership lists sent out from the NYSRTA Office.

**NEWSLETTER and BULK MAIL** - No news at this time for the Newsletter. When using the Bulk Mail form be sure to check the date as the form is usually updated each year.

**LEGISLATION** - William Lesniak has received the State priorities and sent them on to the unit Legislation representatives. The three items being pursued include:

- 1) Teacher Residency Program
- 2) Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act
- 3) Improve the Pension COLA - raise the base payment from \$18,000 to \$21,000.

**WEBSITE** - William Lesniak is working on the website to change NYSRTA to RENY. Bill will post all reports for the CWZ Meetings as well as unit newsletters and invitations for upcoming meetings.

**NOMINATIONS** - Co-President Mary Ellen reported. There is still an urgent need for a Vice President. Marge Wood is the CWZ Nomination's Chair. Each unit needs to look for a nomination's chair or the Unit President will be placed in the position. The plan is to present a slate of officers in May, vote in August, and install at the September Annual Meeting.

**FRIENDLY SERVICE** - Barb Rosecrans submitted a written report prior to the meeting.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** - Joan Handfield was absent.

**HEALTHCARE** - Betty Weber-Worden receives a Daily Health Care update from the NYSRTA Healthcare person, Mary Ellen Moeller, from Kaiser Health Care which is excellent. Betty forwards this information to the unit Healthcare people. Betty recommends the Home Fit Care from AARP as an excellent program idea in helping your home be safer as you age. She presented a handout entitled, "How to Protect Your Health Data" at the meeting as another excellent resource for everyone to implement for their own safety.

**EPKE-MEAGHER AWARD for NEWLY RETIRED TEACHERS** - Judie Byndas passed out the 2020 application form to unit presidents. Applications are due by July 15, 2020.

**NYSRTA HUDSON-KRAMER MEMORIAL GRANT** - Sandy Kushner read a letter from Mary Burns, Elementary Librarian from Caledonia-Mumford, summarizing the student activities through February using the Dash and

Dot robots and iPads. Third grade students have been the target group for the implementation, and the other elementary grades will be added through the rest of the school year.

BYLAWS - Bruce Croucher - No Report

RESOLUTIONS - Judie Byndas presented one Resolution, originating with Frank Berger.

Whereas, New York State has over 200,000 people with developmental disabilities, and  
Whereas, many of them reside at home with aging parents and,  
Whereas, senior citizens cannot provide care forever, and  
Whereas, there is a growing waiting list of people to enter facilities that provide services for intellectual and other developmental disabilities,  
Therefore, be it resolved that RENY support New York State legislators to adequately finance and increase the number of these residential options.

The motion was made by Bruce Croucher and seconded by Frank Berger to support the Resolution. Motion carried. Judie will forward the Resolution to the state Chairman for consideration.

HISTORIAN AND PUBLIC RELATIONS - Phyllis Dunlap passed out the assignments for submitting RENY York State 2020 publicity articles to her as follows:

- 1) Yates & Livingston by April 20, 2020 for the spring electronic issue.
- 2) Monroe & Ontario by June 30, 2020 for a hard copy.
- 3) Orleans & Steuben by August 18, 2020 for a fall electronic issue.
- 4) Wayne & Wyoming by October 30, 2020 for a winter hard copy.
- 5) Seneca County will fill in as needed.

Please keep saving pictures and articles for the CWZ Scrapbook.

FUNDRAISING - The 2020 Annual Presidents' Appeal letter will be available to adhere labels at the May meeting, but will not be mailed until June.

UNIT PRESIDENT'S REPORTS - Frank Berger stated that Orleans County has gone from four meetings a year to two meetings a year. Mary Beth Tyndall reported that Carol Lord was in the audience when the Monroe County Carolers performed at a Penfield facility in December.

VICE PRESIDENT - is still vacant.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Annual Meeting - Mary Ellen would like a date in mid-September and the location "on the books" as soon as possible. Bruce Croucher is looking at a location in Canadaigua. The last two locations were also a possibility due to their location and food quality. Program suggestions included the Universal Design for homes as people age presented by Betty-Healthcare. Betty Pilato offered a suggestion that Midlakes students took Veterans to New Orleans WW II Museum through the Gary Sinese Foundation.

2) Mary Ellen will be working on the new CWZ Directory. Please return the lists she sends unit presidents ASAP.

3) Robyn needs the dates of unit meetings and locations for 2020.

4) CWZ Meeting Dates for 2020 are: May 7th, August 6th, and November 5th at the Legacy, Victor, NY. The RENY Convention dates are October 14, 15, & 16, 2020 at Turning Stone.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Kushner  
Acting Secretary