

Carrollton- Farmers Branch Retired School Personnel Association

Executive Board Meeting facilitated by Lori McCall on ZOOM150

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

President Beth Sargent called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM.

- **Minutes:** Secretary Darcy Perreault stated that minutes from the December meeting are posted on the webpage.
- **Membership:** 1st Vice President Shaima Hakim shared information about the membership and the need to contact those members who have yet to pay this year's dues. Treasurer Judy Carey shared information about the dues collected and not collected for this year and that next year's dues begin in March. Members discussed possible means of encouraging members to pay dues on time and strategies for contacting members who haven't paid this year's fees. One idea is to contact members who have not paid via telephone since Judy has already contacted them by email. Judy suggested gift card drawings each month for members who pay their dues on time for this coming year. Judy and Shaima will meet to work out the details concerning these membership issues.
- **Publicity:** 2nd Vice President Lori McCall noted the ongoing efforts to update our website to make it easily accessible. Nan Naugher is working on updating Facebook and will continue to make it current and public. Lori has been looking at newspapers as a vehicle for our news. Della Swaim shared our association's historical use of newspapers. Lori asked for other suggestions for publicity. Darcy Perreault suggested the Farmers Branch and Carrollton's senior centers as a possibility. A discussion concerned limitations of walk-in participants to our meetings.
- **Children's Book Project:** Gretchen Biery informed members that 2400 books have been purchased and only 200 more needed. Gretchen shared a concern that the cost of books is rising. Members offered possible places to purchase books. Lori McCall added that the delivery of books to elementary schools will be in May after consultation with the schools.
- **Healthy Living:** Carol Sprawls announced the four groups of eight that will participate in Walk Across Texas. Lori McCall leads One Trek Minds, Shaima Hakimi leads Spring Chicks, Becki Tucker leads Trail Trekkers, and Barbara Gilbert leads Far Flung Fillies. Carol requested volunteer walkers in case someone has a problem during the competition and a substitute walker is needed for the team.
- **Volunteer Hours:** Beth reported for Kay Edmondson on our progress in recording last year's volunteer hours. Of our 400 members, 29 reported their hours that totaled 11,039. Beth encouraged members to still report their hours to Kay and how important that data is in supporting our legislative priorities.
- **Retirement:** Mary Eisenmann shared information about the upcoming Retirement Seminar. It will be held on Zoom, February 12 at 10AM. Emails went to C-FB staff members on January 18.
- **Field Trips:** Lee Nitcholas shared information about the upcoming field trips. On February 23 members will visit the Holocaust Museum and have a late lunch. The committee is working on details for the spring field trips and solicited ideas for those months.
- **Benefits:** Cindy Hardy updated the transition from AMBA to Trident. Trident is still working on their benefit plan, and in the meantime, those on AMBA can continue their coverage with that agency. Any concerns call: 1-800-322-0201.
- **Door Prizes:** Beth facilitated a discussion about door prizes and the work of Jamie Smith and Mary Johnson who Beth asked to serve in that role. Next year, a new committee chair will need to be chosen. Members offered suggestions about types of prizes and resources.
- **End of year survey:** Beth requested suggestions or revisions for the end of year survey. Some ideas are to ask members for ideas for field trips and program presentations. Lori McCall said the survey should be

sent out in May so that members can respond to the whole year and that May has historically been the month for the survey.

- **Programs:** Lori McCall listed the programs for the rest of the year: February, gardening; April, Tim Lee from TRTA; and May a representative from Trident.
- **Grants:** Della Swaim reported her progress on obtaining grants for the Children’s Book Project. She is working on a possible grant as well as t-shirts from the Credit Union of Texas. Della will apply for grant money for the Children’s Book Project from the Civic League, Carrollton’s Women’s Club, and Farmers Branch Women’s Club.
- **TRTA State Convention:** Beth encouraged members to volunteer for the convention which is in Dallas this year. Lee Nitcholas who is on the Region 10 Steering Committee announced that they are seeking speakers and to please contact her if you know of any notable speakers.
- **Treasurers Report:** Judy Carey said that we receive \$400 from TRS called the Go and Grow fund, and we must account for the money. She asked for ideas. One suggestion was to update our website and another idea was to have t-shirts created.

New Business:

- Beth asked for new ideas about how to raise money for the Children’s Book Project. She mentioned the former practice of placing bags on the tables when we were able to meet in person and asked how much was raised. Pat replied it was about \$20-30 each meeting. A discussion ensued about continuing to use the bags and a possible bake sale this spring. A suggestion was to focus on other areas of saving money. One suggestion was to save money on the luncheon. Another idea was to separate the line items in the budget to see if there are any other areas where money could be saved, so more of the income could be directed to the Children’s Book Project. The discussion was tabled until the June Executive Committee meeting when a budget for the 2022-2023 will be determined.
- Estelle Lara asked when we could sponsor another Metrocrest Food Drive. Beth responded that May would be a good month.

President Sargent adjourned the meeting at 12:36 PM

Darcy Perreault, Secretary

Date Approved

Beth Sargent, President

Date Approved