

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY COUNCIL OF RETIREES

Minutes 2-12-24

- I. Call to order -11:05 a.m. / Pledge
- II. Welcome Members and Guests –
 - Carlos congratulated us on being here the morning after the Super Bowl!
 - New members: Rosemary Schaffer (Plattsburgh); Keith West (Plattsburgh); Vicki Tedford (Peru); Lynn LaMere (Northeastern)
- III. Co-Chair Reports
 - a. Carlos
 - No Report
 - b. Violet
 - MOS: Jane Claffey (Plattsburgh); Elton Jodoin (BCS); Evelyn Sanger (BCS); Karolina Nolan (AVCS)
 - “Gray” divorces are increasing (costly for women)
 - NYSTRA endorsed Biden
 - Prescr. drug crisis – Inflation Reduction Act (cap what we pay); Americans pay highest drug prices; Medicare should cover vaccines;
 - Retirement challenges – aging population and declining birth rate (by 2034-more seniors than births)
 - Younger kids will need more for retirement
- IV. Secretary’s Minutes for 1-8-23 (B. VanCour for S. Kenoyer)
 - a. Motion to approve: Charlie Stone
 - b. Second: Lori Ducharme
 - c. Approved
- V. Treasurer’s Report – Rod Sherman
 - a. Beginning Balance \$15,867.98
 - b. Income \$ 1,037.00
 - c. Expenses \$ 804.72
 - d. Ending Balance \$16,100.26
 - e. Motion to accept: Nona Garrand
 - f. Second: Judy Paquette
 - g. Approved
- VI. Correspondence
 - Thank you from the Food Shelf for \$65 donation
- VII. Committees
 - a. Retiree Assistance – NEED CHAIR

- No Report
- b. Sunshine – Juanita Stone
 - Cards sent to Valerie Jodoin (thinking of you and then sympathy)
- c. Membership – Rod Sherman
 - No Report
 - Paid Members ____
 - Honorary ____
 - Total Members ____
- d. Scholarship – Vicki Washburn
 - Application packets sent out next month; due in May
- e. NCTRC – Vicki Washburn
 - Jan. 17^t mtg.
 - New classes began Jan. 8
 - Comm. will be formed to look into offering mini=grants to teachers for projects in classrooms
 - Comm. of 100 will be held in Albany March 4-5
 - Comm. will be formed to start interviewing and Preparing for Denise Sypek’s retirement in June 2026; if person is chosen in 2025, they can learn job from Denise while there
 - Next mtg. March 13, 2024
- f. Nominating – No Chair needed yet
 - Nothing this year
- VIII. Regional and State Reports
 - a. Local Reports – REPS NEEDED to attend local R.A. mtgs.
 - Saranac – mtg. cancelled
 - b. NERCTA – Jeanette Stapley
 - No Report
 - c. RAC (NYSUT Retiree Advisory Committee) – Bill LaDuke
 - Statewide RAC mtg.
 - Sub comm. brings ideas to NYSUT
 - Agreed to reform Tier 6 (cost for system to keep Tier 6 vs. letting them go early and % of turnover)
 - d. NYSUT Director Report – Jeanette Stapley* (see quote below)
 - Gov. Hochul being like Cuomo (No funding for Tch. Center in new budget; Foundations not funded; half of schools losing money)

- Mtg. of Small and Rural Locals Advisory Council addressed APPR, teacher shortage, mental issues, school safety, budgets, etc.
- Tricia Beisel discussed air quality concerns
- Melinda Persons letter to Sec. Cardona re: assessment
- Jaime Ciffone letter to Commissioner Rosa re: teacher certification in NYS
- e. Retiree Council #9 – Lynn Hunneyman
 - Not here
- f. NYSUT Regional Staff Director – Don Carlisto
- g. RC 9 and 10 Retiree Consultant – Ruth Shippee
 - Ruth.shippee@nysut.org
 - Sent info on member benefits legal planning: for \$55 annually, or \$50 pension deduction, update wills, power of attorney, living wills and health care proxy
 - Date made available to do so was Feb. 20 with sign up by Feb. 14
- IX. Old Business
 - No old business addressed
- X. New Business
 - No new business brought up
- XI. Other agenda items
 - SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY, March 11, 2024 at MHAB
 - Speaker “to be announced”
- XII. 50/50 and Food Shelf Report
 - a. 50/50 - \$25 won by Vicki Washburn
 - b. Food Shelf donation - \$70
 - c. Wine and scarf/potholder donation – won by Vicki Tedford
- XIII. Grace Before Meal
- XIV. Adjournment at 11:59 a.m.
 - a. Motion by: Vicki Washburn
 - b. Second by: Paula Cormier
 - c. Carried

LUNCH

Program: Erin Pangborn and Jordanne Manney from the Town of Plattsburgh Recreation Department presented information about the multiple programs and activities made available to the public.

Respectively submitted, Billie VanCour (for Sue Kenoyer)