

**EARTA BOARD MEETING
ETA/IRA OFFICES
Elgin, Illinois
January 13, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER – President, David Wedemeyer, called the meeting to order at 9:40.

Present: Adrienne Berna, David Brown, Maureen DeDobbelaere, Jean Jederman, Peggy Jurgensen, Kay Lincicome, Barb McGee, Cliff Olson, Karen Patterson, Coral Reinert, David Wedemeyer, Mick Williams. **Absent:** Susan Frederitzi, Cindy Lange, June Preucil, Shelly Singer, Bonnie Skapyak, Cindy Ruszkiewicz, Irene Wedemeyer

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Recording Secretary – Kay Lincicome Minutes of the October 14, 2016 EARTA Board Meeting, were accepted as presented. The minutes are on file.

Corresponding Secretary – Susan Frederitzi Two thank you notes were read from the Community Crisis Center. One note thanked EARTA for the donation of \$30, and the other note thanked EARTA for the donations of toilet paper, diapers, wipes, toiletries, and school supplies. CCC wrote that our support provides essential services to individuals and families in crisis.

Treasurer – Jean Jederman reported that as of January 1, 2017, there is \$2545.65 in the checking account, and \$8675.28 in the savings account. The report will be on file for audit.

Vice-President – Barb McGee The next EARTA General Meeting will be on February 17, 2017, at Randall Oaks Golf Club. The menu will be house salad, chicken supreme, wild rice, fresh veggies, chocolate sundae and beverages. The cost will be \$20. Barb reported that Villa Olivia contacted her concerning why we had chosen not to return to them for our meetings/luncheon. Barb discussed with Villa Olivia that EARTA had not been satisfied with the food. Villa Olivia would like us to consider them in the future and they will look into what might be the problem.

President – David Wedemeyer handed out a flyer on the 2017 Area II Conference which contained a tentative agenda. It will be held on Monday, April 24, 2017, at the Pinecrest Golf Club, 11220 Algonquin Rd, Huntley, IL. Registration will be at 8:30. The cost of \$20 will be covered by EARTA. Dead line for registration is April 15, 2017. David reported that Dick Ingram, executive director of TRS, will hold a series of Town Hall meetings in January and February across the state of Illinois. Chicago area is not planned yet. These meetings will cover the realities of public pensions in Illinois. Cliff will attend one of the meetings. There is an opportunity for scholarships for students who are going into teaching. Interested persons need to apply with ETA for this grant. David will contact ETA to see if they will send out information to teachers in U-46 concerning this scholarship, principals statewide have already received the information.

Auditing – Peggy Jurgensen No report

Chaplin – Mick Williams asked for prayers for continuation of public education.

Charity – Coral Reinert No report

Community Participation – Cindy Lange Donations for the Community Crisis Center may be given at each General Meeting. Please check the Directory for suggestions of donations.

Contact – Bonnie Skapyak The system is ready for calls to members when necessary.

Information Services – Maureen DeDobbelaere reported that there has not been any information sent to her.

Legislation – Cliff Olson discussed his printed legislative report. He highlighted new requirements for teacher subs, information about a new pension reform proposal, and information about education “equity” in Illinois. Also discussed was information concerning voting NO for Betsy DeVos, nominated as Secretary of Education. Cliff reminded EARTA to “Stay up-to-date and be ready for a Call to Action as there is certain to be legislative information concerning our pension system. As always, check the EARTA, IRTA and TRS websites.” The report is on file.

Membership – David Brown reported about changes in the new Directory. Under the title “Historian” will be the letters TBA. The Retirement committee will be Irene and Cindy L. David B. reported that EARTA has 420 members. He sent out 90 letters to members to remind them to renew their memberships. There has been a good response to his letter which was mailed before Christmas. As of now, 25 “members” have not renewed. Some of these were new retirees that joined EARTA on the “free first time” offer. Those who need to renew have till January 15th to do so. David B. reported that IRTA gave EARTA 2017 retirees’ list from the state’s records. At the moment, we have the list from Elgin and St. Charles’ schools. Other districts will follow.

Jogger Mailing – Karen Patterson reported that 450 *Joggers* will be printed and mailed. This number includes those who have not renewed their membership. A personal note will be written to remind them about renewing. A committee of June, Coral, Maureen, Karen, and one of the Wedemeyers, will meet at the Greens on January 18th at 3:00 to assemble the *Jogger*.

Jogger Editor – Cindy Ruskiewicz requested that all information for the *Jogger* be to her by noon on Saturday, January 14th.

Nominations – Adrienne Berna reported that EARTA will need to nominate someone to run for President, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary. Discussion was had concerning possible candidates. One suggestion was to consider new life members.

New Members (Pre-Retirement) – Irene Wedemeyer, Barb McGee, Cindy Lange Irene has been working on getting names of retirees. The state is cooperating in helping with this. EARTA can also use the “Freedom of Information Act” to obtain names of districts for which we need names.

Programs – Shelly Singer reported that she contacted Rick Frankenfeld as the speaker for the April 21st General Meeting, but he was unable to come at this time. Discussion was had concerning ideas for upcoming programs. Some suggestions were having presentations from Sherman Hospital. Also suggested was contacting an entertainer called “Cowboy Rick” (Rick Pickins), or contacting the winner of the “Voice” T.V. show, Riley Elmore, from District 300. Contacting high school choral groups was also suggested. Program for April 21st TBA.

Social – Coral Reinert reported that the Supper Club met on Monday, January 9th, at Hooper's Bar and Grill. The next Supper Club will be on February 13th. EARTA members and guests are asked to gather about 4:00, if possible, instead of 5:30, as David Brown would like the group to help prepare the new Directories for mailing. Epicurean Adventure met at the Buckingham Steakhouse on December 8th. The food was delicious and all had a good time. On January 15th, at 4:00, the group will meet at the Anvil Club for another "fun" get together. Karen and Irene are planning the next outing to be held at the TL Four Seasons in Bartlett on February 22nd at 6:00. Save Monday, March 6th, to join the group at Giamia in Geneva, at 6:00. Please contact Irene or Karen for any questions. Tour Report: For those that signed up to see *The Bodyguard* and have lunch at the Grand Lux Café on Wednesday, February 8th, you'll soon be receiving information regarding time/location of pickup from the Triumph Bank. Any questions, please contact Coral.

Website – June Preucil No report

State Legislation – Cliff Olson reported that Christina Castro's name needs to be added to the Directory.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business pending

ADJOURNMENT

David adjourned the meeting at 11:15.

CALENDAR

January 18 – Stuffing the *Jogger*

February 17 – General Membership Meeting – Randall Oaks Golf Club

March 10 – Board Meeting – ETA/IEA Offices

April 24 – Area II Conference – Pinecrest Golf Club, Huntley

Respectively Submitted
Kay Lincicome, Recording Secretary