ST. BERNARD RETIRED TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION

Friday, September 19, 2014

Docville Farm

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Grethel at 11:40 a.m.

The minutes were read and approved as read.

The treasurer reported that there are 124 paid members. The treasury balance as of August is $4627.24. The bill for today’s meal and other expenses still have to be paid.

Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially those who joined or renewed at today’s meeting.

Paul reported that he looked into the possibility of having a meeting at the World War II museum. He found that it would be too expensive to meet there.

After discussing membership, Milton Boackle moved that that SBRTA offer lifetime membership. The motion was seconded by Rose Scott. Hugh Craft offered a substitute motion that President Grethel appoint a committee to study the pros and cons of lifetime membership and present their recommendation at the first meeting in 2015. The motion was seconded and passed.

In regards to our membership campaign, Paul reported he mailed a reminder to the membership to renew dues and join LRTA. Carol Francis read from the SBRTA Bylaws under membership, Article III, Section 3: “Teachers or administrators must be a member of the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana and the Louisiana Retired Teachers’ Association.” After discussion, President Grethel announced that starting in January, teachers and administrators must belong to both SBRTA and LRTA. Carol Francis clarified that the requirement to belong to the state does not apply to associate members, although they may choose to do so.

Faith Moran, of the St. Bernard Tourist Commission, gave out a calendar of events for St. Bernard and encourage all to take part in the events.

A representative from AMBA (Association Members Benefits Advisors) spoke briefly on dental insurance available through LRTA as well as long term care and home health care.

Craig Luscombe, who gave out printed info, spoke on TRSL update, annual enrollment in OGB (Office of Group Benefits), the Fall LRTA Meeting, and House Bill No. 21 and Senate Bill No. 1225, both of which passed during the 2014 Regular Session. They both pertain to benefit increases.

Cindy Franatovich, from the school board office, compared the OGB plans being offered to retirees without medicare.

Dr. James Taylor, newly elected to the Retirement Board, was introduced.

It was announced that the Louisiana Retired Teachers’ Association Fall Meeting will be held on October 27, 28 and 29. The only cost will be to attend the optional banquet on Tuesday night (cost $33.00).

The Christmas SB7RTA meeting will be held on Sunday, December 7 at the Palmetto’s in Slidell. The Day at the Races is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 19.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.