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**ST. BERNARD RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**ST. BERNARD MAUMUS CENTER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m. by President Paul Grethel.

The invocation was offered by Leslie Scharfenstein.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Anna Weidenhaft.

 Paul gave a welcoming before the meal.

The business meeting began following the lunch which was prepared by the St. Bernard Parish School Board Food Services.

The minutes were read by Secretary Carol Francis. They were approved as read.

Treasurer Hugh Craft reported that there are 156 members and 63 are lifetime members. The percentage of lifetime members is 40%. He reported a bank balance of $9198.27. He indicated that this does include the lifetime memberships and only a percentage of that can be used each year, therefore, only a portion of this amount is available to be used this calendar year.

Doris Voitier, St. Bernard Parish School Superintendent, was the speaker. She told us about the renovations of this building as well as some other renovations. She indicated that they thought this would be last of the renovations and constructions. However, the elementary schools are overcrowded and a new one is under construction on Paris Road. It is scheduled to open in August, 2017. Because of the new school, there will have to be a redistricting of the elementary schools in the parish. All the renovations and constructions have not been an expense to the St. Bernard taxpayers since the funding has come through FEMA and other programs. Doris also pointed out that the millage that had funded the building of the new schools a number of years ago would soon be ending but they were successful in getting it reinstated to maintain the current buildings. This is not an increase but a continuance of the millage.

Rodney Watson, LRTA Executive Director gave an update on legislature and LRTA.

Carolon Craft was recognized as the 2016 SBRTA Retiree of the Year and was presented with a trophy by President Grethel.

After discussion dealing with donating an American Flag to Docville Farms, Faith Moran moved that SBRTA donate a standing American Flag to Docville Farms. The motion was seconded by Jackie Pace and passed. Paul will investigate as to which size would be appropriate for the room there.

Hugh Craft discussed changing our bank account because he has been having some problems with Chase Bank. He would like to change to Gulf Coast Bank. After discussion, Rosemary Gioia moved that we open an account at Gulf Coast Bank and transfer the account from Chase Bank to Gulf Coast Bank. The motion, seconded by Les Scharfenstein, passed. The necessary paperwork will be signed by the officers and submitted to Gulf Coast Bank in order to open the account.

The Christmas dinner meeting will be held on Sunday, December 4 at Pinewood Country Club in Slidell.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Following the meeting we were taken on a tour of the building.

Submitted by

Carol Francis, Secretary