

## MINUTES from QACRSPA Meeting October 8, 2019

11:30 Fellowship Time, Silent Auction, Lynn passed out tickets for door prizes

12:03 Meeting called to order by President Richard McNeal  
Richard asked the blessing and lunch was served

12:49 Richard thanked Suzanne for the delicious lunch and thanked Sharon Darling for the door prizes. It was reported that the silent auction raised nearly \$300 in 20 minutes.

Minutes were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's report- Starting balance \$3,619.79  
Deposits +1,890.00  
Disbursements - 680.24  
Total in General Fund 4,829.55  
Scholarship Fund 4,188.39

### Health Update

Theresa Steinhise introduced Adrienne Steel and Marlo Webb from Labor First. They reported TransAmerica will pick up everything that Medicare doesn't pay IF the expense had Medicare approval. If Medicare doesn't pick up something, TransAmerica won't either. There is an automatic transfer of funds. Don't pay an expense. It is easier to resolve by contacting Labor First than trying to get money back if you pay it. Everything is staying the same next year 2019 into 2020 so the cards will stay the same. If you have any questions, contact Labor First at 410-346-3448 or 855-236-7152.

We were urged to take advantage of mail order prescriptions. The question was asked-If a prescription was pre-authorized last year, does it have to be pre-authorized again this year? Authorization with Humana should be good for two years. Humana.com has a list of approved prescriptions. If a medication needs a preauthorization, we were reminded that it takes time for the paperwork to go back and forth so don't wait until the medicine runs out.

A question was asked about pap smears not being covered yearly. Medicare will only cover a pap smear every two years. TransAmerica pays 20% after Medicare pays 80% + Medicare deductible.

When the TransAmerica/Humana program began, we had a county wide meeting for retirees over 65. For members turning 65 now, a packet is mailed with a letter of explanation. The insurance coverage changes the first of the month you turn 65. Our health package is local. It does not come from the state.

## Legislative Update

Steve passed out brochures that list the Legislative Priorities for this year. The first objective is Pension Protection. If you have any questions, call the number on the brochure or call Steve Strobeck. There will be six meetings of the committee during the legislative session, beginning in January. They will be monitoring any legislation that affects the priorities listed in the brochure. On November 13, there will be a Legislative Workshop attended by Steve, Richard, and one other member.

The General Assembly approved some of the recommendations of the Kerwin Report. The Governor is reluctant to support them. He feels education in Maryland is okay and would prefer to use the money in other areas. A grass roots organization called Strong Schools for Maryland has begun to educate the public about the Kerwin endeavor.

## Items for Discussion

-A question was raised about the Life Insurance coverage. At age 75, the coverage is 50% of the original amount.

-The next QACRSPA meeting will be on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Fisherman's Inn in the back room. We will begin with a social time at 11:30 and lunch will be served at 12:00. Lunch menu is single crab cake, prime rib, or stuffed chicken breast with vegetable and potato. \$30 cost includes lunch, drink, and tip. Lynn let everyone know that December 1 will be the cutoff date. No reservations will be accepted by phone or email after that date.

## Scholarship Committee

Tomi shared that the committee will be awarding \$250 book scholarships in the Fall and Spring to the runner up at each high school. There would be a stipulation that the money would have to be in the fund in order to award the additional scholarship.

The committee will be changing the rubric slightly, to add weight to financial need. Sharon Darling asked if there should be a vote on the changes. There was a verbal vote with all present in agreement.

## Service Projects

Sandy shared that purple lights are still on in Queen Anne's County. There will be a Haunted Crack House again that you can walk through in 20-25 minutes for \$3.00. There is no parking at Kennard Elementary. Parking is at the High School with buses shuttling. Most of the actors are drama students.

The Challenge Program will be held the third week in November at CMS, SUMS, STMS, and MMS. Adult volunteers are needed to interact with 7<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students. No advance planning is necessary.

Character Counts is looking for mentors.

## Sunshine Committee

Kathy Draper's contact information will be in the next newsletter so she can be notified when someone is sick or in the hospital. Many members were mentioned at the meeting. Bob Campbell visited with Barbara McCreary. Madlyn Hollis had been in the hospital. Tom Reed is in rehab. Marietta Reed had pneumonia.

Susan Boone reported that Lucy McElroy passed away yesterday. Bob Garson passed away a couple of weeks ago. Other Board of Education employees who have passed since the last meeting were Ann Sparks, James Holly, and Ms. Bowling.

## Membership

Mary Holden passed membership forms to the new retirees. Four people joined today or online.

## Employee Support

We would like to recognize current employees at work. Richard asked us to come to the December meeting with ideas of what that could look like. This would be for everyone from the custodian to the principal.

## Good of the Group

Sharon Darling shared that there would be a Basket Bingo on November 10<sup>th</sup> featuring Mary Ruth Meredith's collection of Longaberger baskets. Doors open at 1:00, Bingo begins at 2:00.

Madeline let everyone know that QACRSPA made page 6 of the State Newsletter for the "Don't Have To Go Back to School" breakfast. We have been recognized by the state again for the quality of our newsletter. Thank You, Madeline!

Joyce Moody requested that we be informed about what is going on at our local schools. The suggestion was made to check the Board of Education calendar page for this information.

Jolly asked about discount tickets for High School sports events. Richard will check on this.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00

Marge Felty, Secretary