

10/02/14 KCRSPA Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Harrington at 11:40 at Waterman's Restaurant in Rock Hall, MD.

President Nancy Harrington welcomed State Delegate Jay Jacobs, MRSPA area director Dorothy Palmer, Program Specialist from Big Brothers Big Sisters Nicole Benner (granddaughter of Bess and Art Engle) and the following newly retired school personnel: Lee Loller, Joanne Coveney, Ellen Chamberlin, Sharon Gordon, and Brenda Shorter. We said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and ate a delicious lunch including crab dip, crab cakes, pulled pork and chicken salad.

Business Meeting:

Audit: Nancy read the audit report which was written by Pat Clarke, an accountant. Our books are in order.

Membership: Our local membership numbers are stable, but we are always doing the three R's – Recruiting, Retaining and Regaining members. The membership goal for the MRSPA this year is 15,000 and there are presently 14,938 members. Fay Miller asked the new retirees to join and to give her their information today. Fay Miller distributed the new directory which includes information about members, committees, the by-laws and a birthday list. It also includes a list of benefits for unified members. Fay recommended the travel deals. To access MRSPA information online, use your membership number which is listed in the directory.

Website: Barbara Wheeler distributed cards with our web address which is KCRSPA.org. She reminded us that part of our mission is to advocate for children.

Lancaster trip: Ruth Wilson reported that the Nov. 5 trip to Lancaster is full, but members may sign up for next year's trip. Proceeds from the trip are contributed to the KCRSPA Scholarship fund.

MRSPA Area Director: Dorothy Palmer gave remarks. She is retiring this fall.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: Nicole Brenner, program specialist announced that Big Brothers Big Sisters has been reactivated in Kent County as of January 2014. She encouraged us to volunteer. She said young people in Kent County are coming to the organization at an alarming rate. Volunteers would meet with young people twice each month. Her job is to match young people to volunteers. Contact information for Nichole Benner is:

[nbenner@biglittle.org](mailto:nbenner@biglittle.org)

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Scholarship: Billie Lynne Roberts reported that we awarded two \$1200 scholarships in 2014. She encouraged all to donate to the fund. She said that the 50/50 raffle and the Lancaster trip were also fundraisers for the scholarship fund.

Community Service: Margie Baker thanked us for supporting her and nominating her for the Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. Billie Lynne reminded us to keep track of community service and announced a new user-friendly form for doing so.

By-Laws: Margie Baker asked us to review the new By-laws, which are in the directory. We will vote on these at the December general meeting.

Senior Discounts: Margie Baker handed out brochures about senior discounts in Kent County. She encouraged us to use these. You must request the discount to receive it.

50/50 raffle: Peachy Moore won the 50/50 raffle.

Hospitality: Bonnie Smith and Emily Massey did a beautiful job with the chrysanthemum centerpieces and the fall candy and candle favors. The chrysanthemum center pieces were raffled off at the end of the meeting.

Next General Meeting: December meeting will be on Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014 at the CRYCC. We will hold a Chinese Auction as a fundraiser at the meeting.

Sunshine: Jean Wright received a thank you note from Flossie Johnson for flowers sent to her by KCRSPA.

Guest Speaker: State Delegate Jay Jacobs joined us for lunch and afterwards spoke about protecting the teachers' retirement benefits and the problems of businesses deciding to go to Delaware rather than be in Kent County, MD. He invited us to give our opinions and he invited us to come to Annapolis to visit him. Jay emphasized that contacting legislators about issues is very important and that monitoring legislation about our pensions is vitally important. Jay asked that his contact information be published in our newsletter:

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The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm.

