**St. Bernard Retired Teachers’ Association Meeting**

**Rocky and Carlo’s Restaurant**

**Chalmette, Louisiana**

**September 21, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Grethel at 12:00 p.m.

The invocation was offered by Les Scharfenstein.

Milton Boackle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Grethel reminded the membership about Dr. Hugh Craft and to keep him in our prayers. Rosemary Gioia gave the latest update on Dr. Craft’s condition and said that he is now in Lakeside Hospital on the Northshore. President Grethel said that we could email or call him about sending get well wishes to Dr. Craft. We could also send wishes to Dr. Craft’s P.O address listed on the top of the agenda sheet. He said that we can also check Facebook for posts by Carolon or their daughter Cassie.

Rosemary Gioia also gave an update on member Kathy Dauterive’s condition. She said she has brain cancer and being treated at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She asked that we keep Kathy in our prayers.

Rosemary Gioia also gave us an update on her own health concerns and said that she has only one more chemotherapy, but that she took a downturn with her eye problem.

President Grethel reminded the members to fill out any updates they wished to add to the green activity sheets he distributed at the last meeting in June on which members can list any volunteer work they have done for charities, community groups, churches, schools SBRTA, and other organizations.

Recording Secretary Mickey Lux read the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved as read.

President Grethel said that he didn’t have current information about the organization’s bank balance or checkbook balance due to the medical condition of Dr. Craft. He said we now have 190 members.

President Grethel reminded the members about the Membership Meeting which will be held on Wednesday, November 7, at Chalmette Elementary School, which is located on the site of the former Chalmette Middle School. It will be from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The purpose is to inform active teachers that they can join our organization and that we actively support them in such matters as teacher pay raises. It will also be for retired teachers who are not members of SBRTA. It will be socially oriented, and refreshments will be served. He said to let him know if we plan to attend.

The meeting resumed after the luncheon.

President Grethel introduced the guest speaker, attorney Mike Ginart, who spoke about the importance of leaving a will. President Grethel distributed handouts with information on planning for your funeral services, where to purchase discounted caskets, urns, and other funeral items on eBay. He also passed out handouts produced by AARP concerning things a person shouldn’t sign.

Attorney Mike Ginart spoke extensively on how important it is to plan for our demise. He said we need to let our family and/or friends know where important papers are stored and to write a will. He said that he would write our wills for free if they are not too complicated.

The membership had many questions for Mr. Ginart, and he spent time answering all of them.

The ticket for the half and half prize of $98.00 was won by Jo Ann Suarez.

James Taylor, who won in the runoff election for Retiree Representative of LRTA, gave a few words of appreciation to the membership. He said that our group turned out en masse to vote for him and that we are the most effective organization in the state.

President Grethel said that he thinks it would be important to have additional signers on the checking account. He asked for someone to make a motion to add another signature to the Chase account. Faith Moran made a motion that the SBRTA president’s name be added to the checking account. It was seconded by Milton Boackle. Having no further discussion, the motion was put to a vote, and the motion carried.

President Grethel said there is one more meeting this year in which we can bring our donations of school supplies. That meeting is the Christmas luncheon which will be held at the Pinewood Country Club in Slidell in on Sunday, December 2 beginning at 11:30 a.m. Closer to Christmas, we will get a few members together to go to the schools and present the supplies.

The tickets for the door prizes were drawn.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

A picture containing animal

Description generated with high confidenceRespectfully Submitted,

Michaele “Mickey” Lux, Recording Secretary