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

**Rocky & Carlo’s Restaurant**

**September 27, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by the president Paul Grethel at 11:30 a.m.

There were over 100 people in attendance.

The invocation was offered by Les Scharfenstein, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Betty Schoettle.

The business meeting paused while the luncheon took place.

After the luncheon, the meeting was resumed, and the minutes of the last meeting were read my recording secretary Mickey Lux. Milton Boackle moved that the minutes be accepted as read. The membership voted, and the minutes were approved as read.

The treasurer Rosemary Gioia gave the treasurer’s report. As of August 2019, there was $10,553.50. Milton Boackle moved that the treasurer’s report be approved as read, and the membership voted to have it approved.

President Grethel pointed out the new public address system that SBRTA purchased.

President Paul Grethel said that our membership is a little down from where it was last year. He said we have 181 members, but last year we had 191. He told the members that we must get more people to join.

The president, Paul Grethel, introduced the guest speaker Cindy Franatovich. She updated us on our health insurance. She told us that there will be a 5% rise in the cost of our insurance, but we can get the physical from Catapult and get a reduction, or get our physical from our own Primary Care doctor and have him fill out a form and send it in. She said she holds physicals at her office on weekdays and holidays. She spoke about the differences between the different insurances. She also reminded us about Access 2, an urgent care facility in which OGB members have no deductible, no co-pay, need no appointment, and have no out-of-pocket expenses. We just need to show our OGB card.

Rodney Watson, the LRTA Executive Director, spoke about how important it is for members to know who to vote for in the next election. He said we need to look carefully at who is running to be on the BESE Board and be sure to vote for those who were classroom teachers. He said we can change the BESE Board so we can move education in the right direction. He said we don’t want to vote for anyone who wants to change the constitution, wants a hybrid plan to replace our pension plan, or endorses a portable system which allows teachers to move around. He said that our current governor is the only one who wants to help us.

Glenn Clark, the representative from AMBA, presented a $100.00 gift card to Tom Harrison for recruiting members.

President Grethel thanked members for bringing school supplies and to continue to do so. He said we will decide when we will go to the schools to distribute them.

Madeline Edwards asked members to vote for her son Derrick Edwards who is running for State Treasurer. She said he is a paraplegic, earned a B.A. in Business from Tulane, earned a law degree from Loyola, and is well-qualified for the office.

President Grethel told the members that Anna Weidenhaft was moving to an assisted living facility, but she can’t take her cat. She would like to find someone who will take the cat and give her a forever home.

Tickets for door prizes were pulled, and the winner of the 50/50 raffle, which totaled $198.00, was Jackie Pace.

President Paul Grethel said that our Christmas luncheon and meeting will be held at Pinewood Country Club on Sunday, December 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michaele “Mickey” Lux, secretary