

HRSPA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2007

President: Dianne Hughs Shuler
Vice President: vacant
Secretary: Rose Tanner (absent)
Treasurer: Becky Goshorn
Past President: Swift Williams
AARP Liaison, Historian: vacant
Membership: Debbie Firebaugh
Hospitality: Carol Townes
Social: Myrna Cartledge
Newsletter: Lee Reynolds
Mailing: Sybil Powell
Publicity: Bev Beazley

Remembrance: Linda McCullough
Legislative: Nelson Taylor
Scholarship: Mary Brownfield
Website: Linda MacCleave (absent)
Parliamentarian: Gordon Sandridge
District C/VRTA: Nancy Harris (absent)
Support Service Rep: Thomas Folly
Others: A. P. Hall
Audrey Batchelder
Joann McCabe
Barbara Porter
Ellis Sasser (absent)
LuVellen Spratley (absent)
Shirley Uzel

The **meeting** was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President, Dianne Hughs Shuler and **new introductions** were made to incorporate new Publicity Chair, Bev Beazley and to refresh Board members of new Membership Chair, Debbie Firebaugh and Contact Chair, Janet White. Due to printing problems there were no hard copies of the agenda and the Board of Directors roster.

The Secretary was not in attendance so **minutes** of the January 2007 Board meeting were read by ??? and approved. The **treasury** report was given by Becky Goshorn, Treasurer, noting a balance of \$8,465.36 with \$3,194.60 of that belonging to the Scholarship Fund. She indicated that our budget is in good shape. And presented the **Proposed Budget** for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 of a continuing \$3000.00. Swift Williams made one recommended change, that we designate a \$150 discretionary fund for the President to use in unexpected circumstances. To approve the budget as amended was moved by Swift and seconded by Barbara Porter and approved and accepted by the Board.

A current **membership** of 436 Active and 110 Inactive members was reported by Debbie Firebaugh, Membership Records Chair, and a report of the Contact Program was presented by that Chair, Janet White, indicating that member lists have been mailed to Contacts for the fall membership campaign, and that we continue to renew efforts to make that program work more successfully and efficiently. It was noted that we will again send fall newsletters and reminders to new retirees and to members whose memberships have lapsed as we garnered a good return on that effort last fall.

Dianne reminded us of our three **community projects** to Christmas Mother, S. S. Challenge, and Hilliard House and asked if any changes were merited. Swift moved and Carol seconded that HRSPA continue with those projects and that the President be given discretion to acknowledge other organizations. The Board approved.

Dianne then informed us of **the programs** aligned for this year's luncheons. In October, our speaker would be Dr. Warren Stewart, retired Superintendent of Goochland Co. Schools, and current VA President of VA AARP. For March, the tentative plan is to recognize re-retiring HRSPA members and School Board members, Lloyd Jackson and Hugh Palmer, but the rest of the plan is open at this time. In June, our speaker will be Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda, VA Poet Laureate, and former Highland Springs High School graduate and daughter of former HSHS Principal, Victor Kreiter. The consensus of the Board was to use the Cultural Arts Center facility, especially when space merited.

Dates for future meetings were determined or reviewed and are:

October 25, 2007	HRSPA Fall Luncheon
January 29, 2008	HRSPA Board of Directors Meeting
March 13, 2008	HRSPA Spring Luncheon
June 26, 2008	HRSPA Summer Luncheon

The **agenda** was shifted to allow committee reports before discussing some important business which would likely require much discussion. **Committee reports** were requested and given in brief:

Hospitality - Carol Townes - average lunch attendance is 100

Social - Myrna Cartledge - thanks from President for 'goodies'

Newsletter - Lee Reynolds - deadline set for articles needed for fall newsletter - September 21

- Mailing** - Sybil Powell - average newsletters mailed is 600 - next newsletter mailing – October 2
- postage has increased, bulk still not considered
- Remembrance** - Linda McCullough - 3/07-8/07 27 sympathy and 5 get well cards sent
- Scholarship** - Mary Brownfield - Kathy Baldwin '07 (Godwin), HRSPA 07-07 recipient
- no VRТА Scholarship, so HRSPA moving application date back up to April
(because of early date and confusing forms, we also did not have as many applicants with VRТА as component)
- Legislative** - Nelson Taylor - good news - getting increase in health insurance credit!
- thanks to Bea and Charlie! - thanks to Sen. Stosch, too, for his help
- effort continues to garner this for other school employees
- defined benefits are kept and safe for now, but multiplier is still in need of adjustment
- District C** - Fall Meeting TBA - Henrico is host - tentative date Oct. 30
- plan would be same as previous one (using Ukrops, Dianne will call and make arrangements, even after surgery, and will contact Executive Committee with details and for assistance)
- consideration for non-participation (see separate notes on this issue discussion)
- also option of combining with our dues later
- VRТА** - Fall Meeting - Blackstone, October 8-9
- budget curtailed, membership stagnant
- regional structure still being planned - info coming in fall, vote in April, 2008

Dianne requested that we amend the **Bylaws** to include Committees for Photographer, Chaplain and Raffle Chair and designate Shirley Uzel and Thomas Folly for the positions they have already been serving. The Board approved.

Other Business: Two important items

The first issue: The President noted that **leadership positions** in HRSPA are in jeopardy because there are no members in line for taking on those positions. She commended current officers and committee chairs for doing a great job and for taking much of the mental responsibility off of her shoulders, but that those members will not be in those positions forever, any more that she will, noting that she has held the positions of Vice-President and President for the last seven years and will need a respite. She indicated that the office of Vice-President is still open and the offices of President and Secretary will be open in June, 2008. It was suggested that we reconsider the job description of the Vice-President at our January Board meeting. A **nominating committee** needs to be appointed this fall and the following names were suggested (to be contacted): Melissa Baker, Neva Melton, Shirley Uzel, Joann McCabe. There were miscellaneous comments by Board members, but no action was taken.

The second issue: The President indicated a concern for the purpose and efficacy of **District C** and the concern that has been expressed by members regarding our participation in it. Again, there were miscellaneous comments by Board members, most expressing discontent with our financial and physical efforts to support a division of our organization which does not serve any purpose to HRSPA, particularly. Concern was also expressed that dues are collected, but that no one at the district level is keeping track of membership, nor are they disseminating any information to our members. There were some comments that district meetings were a good social gathering for members, especially in the smaller local associations. Discussion was not 'heated', but exhibited 'diligent' concern. A Becky Goshorn moved and Debbie Firebaugh seconded that HRSPA send a letter to the District C President expressing our concerns. Joann McCabe offered to draft the letter and to work with Dianne on this effort during the fall. A list of **specific issues** to be utilized or addressed were:

- only 70 Henrico members in District C and only for 1 year at a time
- check District C Bylaws for responsibility of membership and mailing
- consensus was that there is no purpose to it for HRSPA
- suggestion was to 'pull out' until there is a change in those Bylaws regarding communication
- recommendation that letter go to District C President from HRSPA Board of Directors in September and copies to all District C Local Presidents
- request a reply from District C before October
- there may be a need for a District C liaison to take care of our notices
- present this at fall HRSPA luncheon meeting

**** (As a footnote, after the meeting and before these minutes were finalized, it was determined by the Executive Committee that we would delay sending the letter until winter since HRSPA was to be host of the District C Fall Meeting.)

It was reported that Nancy Harris and Elsie Pelfrey are doing well. Dianne told us that she would be having knee surgery at the end of August and would 'out of commission' for a while, but should be able to take care of some business by phone and email within the month and hopefully be 'up and about' by the luncheon on October. She thanked Board members for their attendance and service to HRSPA and **adjourned** the meeting at 12:20 p.m.