



## Alumni Association of Rensselaer NY

### Minutes

May 2, 2023

Attendance: Dawn Brown, Tracey Stock, Jim Finke, Phil Foust, Doris Roberts, Gerald Mullaney, Tracy Foust, 2 online

Officers: Denise Roberts Wright, Vice President, Liz Rooney Ryan, Treasurer

Administration:

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

A motion was made to accept the April minutes by Jim Finke and seconded by Dawn Brown. The April minutes were approved.

Reports were given:

President: The President was absent but sent in the following report: "There was an enthusiastic round of applause when asked if we should hold the dinner at Franklin Terrace Ballroom next year. This has an advantage of getting the weekend we want that doesn't interfere with events or Spring vacation. Another advantage is the incoming president won't be left scrambling to find a venue for the 2024 induction dinner, so I will entertain a motion to go ahead and make our reservation for next year. I have prepared the letter for the graduating seniors and am in the process of preparing the membership cards. I expect to have them finished in the next week. Letters for the Lewis Scholarship and Centennial Awards have been prepared and I await the names of the recipients before they can be finalized."

Vice President: Banquet: The Vice President reported that the banquet was a success with only 9 individuals missing the dinner. The dinner cost \$6098 and we raised approximately \$6600 (which would pretty much cover the costs for the desserts, ribbons/pins, plaques) which incorporates approximately \$912 in donations. Sign: A diagram of the sign has been sent to the mayor and attorneys for the school and city. The mayor hopes to get this to the planning board as soon as possible. After the last athletic drawdown, the remainder of the money will be placed into the sign account.

Treasurer: The Treasurer reported that our beginning balance for the month was \$21, 185.70 we had deposits of \$5672.50 giving us a balance of \$26, 858.20. The 50/50, raffle basket, and shirt sale grossed \$348 at the dinner. The sports drawn down has been completed and the remainder of the money will be designated in a line for the sign. The TD bank account is now at \$65, 881.68 raising \$164. 37 in interest this month. Liz is working on getting Square. She does have some contact information for a person who has used this. Getting the QR code set up on the website has been a challenge but she will continue to work on it.

Old Business:

Banquet: A motion was made and approved to reserve Franklin Terrace for next year's Hall of Fame dinner. The preferred date would be April 20<sup>th</sup>. Kathy will contact the hall to see if the date is available. A potential addition for next year would be a moment of silence for members who have passed away and also acknowledging members who are veterans. It was decided that inductees will have their R pin placed on their inductee ribbon. There was some discussion about ribbons being presented to posthumous members. The hope is to have the nominator receive the ribbon and have it say "In memory of....." HOF members who received an R pin will be expected to wear their pin to each dinner. It was also decided to place the PowerPoint on the Facebook page. Some of our left-over desserts were donated to Tessa Kent who brought them in for the students who made the centerpieces for the dinner. The kids enjoyed them.

Deb Reimann Community Spirit Scholarship: The explanation sheet of the award was sent to the superintendent, principal and guidance department. Kathy will write up the letter and certificate needed for the award. It will be presented by Jim Cochran at graduation

Senior Breakfast: Will be at 8 am on May 12. This will be a full breakfast which has been in contrast of what has been done for the past two year. J. Cochran and F. Pilato has made a generous donation to assist with the funds for this project. Denise Wright, Dawn Brown, Liz Rooney Ryan, and Tracey Stock have volunteered to assist with the breakfast. Dawn will pick up Dunkin' Munchkins and Tracey and Denise will go shopping the day before and bring the items into the school to be stored in the concession stand. Members will come at 7:30 am to set up. We will also be using some of the leftover supplies from the craft fair.

Centennial Award: Applications have been copied and given to the senior high English teachers. They are due May 15<sup>th</sup> and then they will be evaluated by the principal, guidance counselors, alumni members, and teachers. Jim Cochran will present the award at graduation. The English teacher has 10 students who are working on the application.

Pat Lewis Award: Liz Rooney Ryan has contacted Scott Lewis to see if he is willing to continue funding this award and is awaiting to hear from him. If he does, Jim Cochran will present the award.

Events: Doris Roberts and Gerald Mullaney are planning a Star Wars Night with the Valley Cats on July 22 at the Joe Bruno Stadium. They will get a link that we will publicize and members can order tickets online. On Thursday, August 3 a day at Saratoga Race Track is being planned. They hope to have picnic tables near the big screen and everyone is asked to bring a snack to share. On September 24 members will be invited to a hot dog picnic at the Schodack Town Park. There will be lawn games, just bring a snack to share. We will provide lemonade, ice tea, and water.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Denise Wright, Phil Foust, Jim Finke, and Tracey Stock have volunteered to be members of the nominating committee. The slate of officers is:

President: Denise Wright

Vice President: Tracey Stock

Secretary: Tracy Foust

Treasurer: Liz Ryan

Ex-officio: Doris Roberts

Webmaster: Tom Mulyca

An emailed ballot will go out to all members on August 1 that they can print and mail in. We will also put out the vote on Survey Monkey so members can submit votes electronically. All votes will need to be postmarked by August 31. Jim Finke and Phil Foust will be tabulating the paper ballots.

Leftover shirts: Denise asked permission to donate the remaining shirts we have (all smalls) to the elementary school. A motion was made and approved.

New items: Denise asked permission to investigate setting up the ability to get new shirts, mugs through Wicked Smart in Watervliet. Essentially, they set up a link and people could order the items online and we won't have a "backstock" to deal with. Members wanted Denise to find out some information.

Membership materials: There was some discussion on simplifying some of the membership materials for the next membership drive. The hope is to begin work on this over the summer.

A motion was made and approved to adjourn at 7:52 pm. Next meeting will be June 6, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Roberts Wright