

Elkhart County Retired Teachers

June 11, 2026

Harvest Community Church

- After the meeting was called to order, Carol Larson led the pledge and Mary Ellen Sisson said the prayer. Lunch followed.
- President Barb Hrynewycz installed Maryann Shultz as Corresponding Secretary and Sherrie Huang as Recording Secretary.
- Carol Larson read the names of teachers who had passed in the past year, reading a poem, and lighting a candle in their honor.
- Sherrie Huang introduced our scholarship recipient, Jillian Mann, who told a bit about herself and her future plans. Congratulations Jillian!
- Bonnie Reagan introduced Becky Burk, the Expansion Coordinator in Elkhart County for Isaiah's House 117. The program has a threefold mission: to reduce trauma for foster children, lighten the load for case workers, and lighten the burden for foster families. Treasurer Karen Tobias presented them with a check for \$111.
- Dawn Wysong moved to accept the minutes as written.
- Treasurer Karen Tobias shared that the account balance before today was \$5,640.12.
- President Hrynewycz encouraged members to join IRTA and to use payroll deduction as it saved costs.
- She also told that the silent auction basket that was donated by ECRTA officers raised \$50 for the IRTA Foundation.
- Public Relations Coordinator Dawn Wysong told that the ECRTA newsletter would be emailed, starting in August. Only those members without email addresses would receive a copy in the mail. It was noted that it would continue to be on the ECRTA website and we would begin putting the minutes on there also with Ron's help. All articles for newsletter need to be submitted by July 1.
- Volunteer Coordinator Lenette Burckhart told that 42 members had turned in volunteer hour sheets and 16 had 200+ hours. With the rate of \$35 per hour, around \$17 million of volunteer hours have been totaled across the state.
- She also shared that at Representative Assembly, June 10, President Barb Hrynewycz received The Outstanding Volunteer Clock Award for Area 2, Bonnie Reagan received the award for the Outstanding Group Project and Dawn Wysong for Outstanding Newsletter. Great job ladies!
- Service Project Coordinator Bonnie Reagan asked for ideas for new GROUP projects as the tote bags were not needed as much as they had been in the past.
- Barb Hrynewycz explained about the items being collected; vases for Joy Blooms, glasses for the Lions, and children's books. She also asked for volunteers to represent ECRTA on the opening day of local schools. She has Goshen covered, but needs help at Baugo, Elkhart, Fairfield, Middlebury, WaNee. Please let her know if you want to represent at your former school.
- The next meeting will be September 10 at Goshen College where we will hear about the current trends in education. Kathy Meyer Reimer, director of Elementary Education and Chair of Ed Dept will be our guest speaker. Invite someone to come with you.
- The next meeting's donation will be for The Window.
- Fran Frasier pointed out a misspelling on the necrology list. Verna Benson should be changed to Brinson.
- Gary Stultz made the motion to adjourn at 1:02.