MINUTES – MRTA Retirement Education Committee Meeting
MRTA Office Facility, Jefferson City, Missouri
November 4, 2015

The meeting of the MRTA Retirement Education Committee was called to order by Retirement Education Committee Chairman Larry Beal, also representing Region 7. In addition to Mr. Beal, the following persons were in attendance. Jim Kreider, MRTA Executive Director; Barbara Self, MRTA President; Linda Ferris for David Primm, Region 1; Dale Bagley, Region 3; Susan Fales for Mary Ridge, Region 4; Helen Brockmeyer, Region 6; Linda Taber, Region 8; Carolyn Schad for Jane Baker, Region 9; Sue Groves, Region 10; Mike Stearley, Region 11; Sheryl Smith, Region 12; Tom Wales, FTJ; Sarah Hoeller, MRTA Communications Specialist; Patti Moeller, MRTA Office Administrator; Pat Bagley and Kathy Stearley, Guests. Unable to attend were committee members Debra White, Region 2; Leora Bremer, Region 5; Sherry Brandes, Region 13; and Gloria Shelton, Region 14.

The meeting was opened with the pledge led by Chairman Beal. The minutes of the 2014 Retirement Education Committee meeting were approved on a motion made by Sheryl Smith, seconded by Susan Fales. Motion Passed.

President Self spoke about growing together and sometimes growth requires change. She encouraged attendees to gain value from the past, present, and future to influence others to want to belong. She also reported that Region 10 was going to have a training meeting of all the Region 10 Unit Committee members to help them become more successful.

Director Kreider spoke about the importance of the five MRTA committees and their roles in MRTA’s success in protecting the PSRS pensions. Success – membership is now at 25,000. He ended with the questions, “Are we strong enough?”

Committee members reported on retirement education workshops that were hosted in various regions and units over the past year. Chairman Beal reported on his activities manning exhibit booths at various association conferences in the central Missouri area.

The committee then reviewed a draft of the Goals and Duties of the Retirement Education Committee for 2016. Dale Bagley moved to approve the 2016 goals and duties with one editorial change as suggested by President Self. Linda Taber seconded. Motion passed.

Sarah Hoeller gave a tour of the MRTA and PSRS/PEERS websites. She also demonstrated TextCaster, the newest communication tool MRTA will be utilizing. MRTA will start using TextCaster during the 2016 Legislative Session.

MRTA, a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit corporation, is a grassroots advocacy association with 25,000 members. MRTA is independent, nonpartisan, and does not endorse political candidates.
Tom Wales, FTJ, spoke with attendees about other benefits available to members. He spoke about the Active Teacher liability coverage opportunity and encouraged attendees to share this information with active teachers. He offered to attend local meetings to speak with members about benefits offered by FTJ available to MRTA members.

It was also reported that other resources for Retirement Education Committee activities include contacting the Department of Insurance regarding its CLAIM program and local Extension Offices.

Sue Groves moved to adjourn at 2:00 p.m., Carolyn Schad seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Moeller, MRTA Office Administrator