

**RRTA Meeting  
January 3, 2019**

**Attendance:** R. Allen, D. Altobelli, Z. Artson-Crichlow, M. Barnum, C. Bonsignore-Kitchen, P. Brody, B. Buckingham, C. Dean, K. Evans, M. Ferenchak, K. Huey, W. Humphrey, B. Jones, L. Rapkin, E. Robinson, K. Schultz, G. Shakes, S. Silvio, A. Smith, D. Sullivan, B. Swan, F. Valente, D. Voellinger, M. Zimmer

**Absent:** K. Barkley, K. Fager, A. Johnson, J. Ivanick, A. Johnson, M. Jenkins-Cox, M. Keating, F. Macek, G. Sweeney, Y. Wooten

**Also in attendance:** B. Gerace, A. Huggins, S. Raymond

The meeting was called to order at 10:08.

1. A moment of silence was observed for teachers who have passed away in the past month: John H. Dengler and Jennine McCarthy Delaney (Ed Delaney's wife). A \$25 donation is made to Books for Kids in memory of any RRTA member.
2. The December 6, 2018 minutes were approved as written.
3. **Vote Cope** — Dave Altobelli reported that he is waiting for the year end count for active and retired members to review. The 2019 campaign will begin April 15 and he will distribute the Vote Cope literature at the Rep Assembly on April 30.  
He thanked everyone who brought food and winter outerwear to the Holiday Luncheon which he delivered to Dmitri House and Matthew's Closet.
4. **Dress a Girl/Savvy Sewers** — Gaya Shakes reported that the fundraiser at the Holiday Luncheon got \$700. She thanked everyone for being so generous.
5. **Books for Kids** — The group will go to School 44 in January on the 15th and to School 9 in February. School 7 sent thanks you letters that Kathy Evans shared with the group.
6. **Holiday Party** — Karen Huey said it was a great success with 110 members and friends attending. Barb Buckingham, Lillian Bonanni and Mary Barnum helped Karen making favors and name tags. We thank the committee for all of their work.
7. **Newspaper** — Mary Barnum reported that the January RRTA newspaper will be prepared for mailing on January 16 at 11 am. It goes only to members.
8. Al Smith reported that Saturday, January 5, at 10 am there will be a dedication of flags and plaques at the War Memorial (Blue Cross Arena) by the 98th army division. He said that the Toys for Tots supported by the US Marines collected \$1580 for toys and they gave some to School 22 and 3 day cares before Christmas. They are located on Buffalo Road at the old Gerber plant for anyone wishing to donate and they take requests for needy causes. The group donated gifts to the Thurston Road fire victims before Christmas.

9. **Calendar** — June 1 will be the Red Wing Game that will be added to the calendar.

10. **Membership:** As of the meeting, there are 705 members.

11. Pat Hart, a retired teacher and administrator, has requested to come to the RRTA meeting in February or March to speak about a story program at School 12. She is looking for volunteers to become involved. There was a motion that passed that she will be invited to come and speak at the February meeting for 10 minutes. She will be encouraged to write an article for the April RRTA newspaper.

12. Information: The Life Solutions bill for Excellus clients hadn't been received as of this meeting. Charlie Dean said it might have to do with so many new members because of the price change.

13. Charlie Dean shared the union busting article in the NYSUT newspaper. If you'd like a downloadable sign go to [nysut.org/unionbusters](http://nysut.org/unionbusters). Unionists are putting the sign on their doors so that no one will knock on their doors trying to talk you into quitting the union. You can report the solicitors to [unionbusters@nysutmail.org](mailto:unionbusters@nysutmail.org).

14. February 9 is the NYSUT Legislative Breakfast at the RIT Marriott at 8 am. If you are interested in attending, contact Mary Barnum at the RTA office.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Mary Zimmer  
RRTA secretary