

PUTNAM COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Betty Hazlett. She introduced our special guests Laura Penman, Executive Director of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association, and Brenda Walls, our IRTA Area 4 Director.

Brenda is from Vigo County. She was the youngest of ten children and enjoys serving as our representative. She passed out M & M's to each attendee to remind us that membership matters and urged us to recruit retired teachers to our group.

Laura Penman, state executive director, served our state as a principal and school superintendent before retiring and then was asked to become our director two years ago. She told us that HB 1028, called the bill for the 13th check, has passed the House and is on the way to Senate. Laura urged us to contact the representatives to pass this legislation and to thank the senators who passed it. Laura advocates for teachers, is on call when retired teachers have issues, and really enjoys lobbying for us at the state house. She has an 89 year old mother who retired at age 67 from Northview High School in Brazil. Laura really enjoys representing us as out state executive director. Gary VanMiddlesworth reported that he and Diana have been in contact with legislators Crane, Bray, and Baird regularly on the issue of the 13th check and other education legislation.

Betty led the group in the pledge to the flag and Lucy Wieland offered a prayer for the meeting and the meal. Following our meal, Betty called the meeting to order.

Betty called the meeting to order. The next meeting will be April 11. Members were urged to recruit new members and scholarship applicants. The balance before the meeting was \$2,511.68. This will assure that we will be able to fund our scholarship winner. Non food pantry items will be collected next month.

Minutes will be posted on the PCRTA web site (<http://www.putnamrta.com/>). The scholarship application form is also posted.

Respectfully submitted,
Recording Secretary Lucy Wieland