

Paulding Retired Educator's Association Zoom Meeting Minutes November 10, 2020
GREA Theme for 2020-2021: "Cheering for GREA!"
GREA President JoAnn Tomlinson's Humanitarian Project: Alzheimer's Association

Call to Order/Welcome: PREA President Gloria King

Inspiration: Sandra McCollum, "This Too Shall Pass"

Meeting on Zoom at 10:00 AM Seventeen members and two guests attended the meeting.

Introduction of guest speaker: Laura Weiss

Program: Guest speaker was Tammy Walker, director of McKenna Farms Therapy Service (twalker@mckennafarms.org). McKenna Farms is the only therapy service provider in the country that offers such a vast array of therapeutic options for special needs children, adults, and veterans. They provide hippotherapy, water therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy to children with special needs and special needs children who have aged out of the educational system. They also provide therapeutic programs for military veterans.

McKenna Farms has 400 volunteers ages 8 and up who do most of the work on the farm such as land maintenance, feeding horses, grooming horses, and mucking stalls. Tammy said that they always need volunteers, and you can view the many options at www.mckennafarms.com. They have two annual fund raisers, Derby Day in May and McKenna Farms Fall Festival. The work done at McKenna Farms is life changing for not only those in need of their therapy services but also for all the volunteers as well.

Due to technical issues with Gloria's Zoom connection, Susan Lester resumed and completed the remainder of the meeting.

Community Outreach: Susan Lester encouraged donations for PREA Scholarship fund and Paulding Helping Hands.

PREA members were told to record all their volunteer hours and send these recorded hours to Gloria. PREA needs to record at least 100 more volunteer hours.

The 2020 Virtual Walk to End Alzheimer's will be on November 21. Members were encouraged to send in pictures and videos along with their donations. Contributions of \$350.00 has been raised so far and donations will be taken until December 31st.

Minutes from the September meeting were sent in an email by Gloria King.

Treasurer's Report: October's treasury report was emailed by Sandy Parson. We have a balance of \$5,276.99 in our regular; \$2605.00 is going to the scholarship fund leaving \$2671.99 in spendable funds.

Committee Information:

Membership Committee: Barbara Cohran reported that with the assistance of Beth Black, the PREA membership committee has a total of 67 members (57 paid members and 10 free new GREA members).

Handbook Committee: Retha Tibbitts and Connie Tibbitts did a great job completing the 2020-2021 PREA Handbook and sending a download to all members.

Newsletter Committee: Jeaneen Camp continues to keep all member informed by emailing the PREA Newsletter each month.

Scholarship Committee: Susan Lester reported that the committee received 28 applications for the PREA scholarships. The committee selected Heather Reynolds a 1st grade teacher at Northside Elementary School and Natalie Burns a kindergarten teacher at McGarity Elementary School.

New Business and Announcements:

- * Our next PREA meeting will be a Zoom Meeting on January 12, 2021 at 2:00 p.m..
- * GREA convention will be May 4-6, 2021 in Augusta, GA.
- * Randy Arnold is currently under the weather with kidney issues.
- * Donations of \$350.00 were collected for the Alzheimer's Association. Any donations were to be made out to the Alzheimer's Association and sent to Dinah Hardeman before December 31, 2020.
- *Sad news! On November 9, 2020 Franklin Welch passed away. He left his wife Julia and two sons David and John.