I. The meeting was called to order at 3:43 by President Scott Steinberg.

II. Scott Steinberg-President’s Report

- Scott welcomed new members.
- Scott thanked Kate Dobosz for organizing today’s New Member Event.
- Scott introduced WITA Officers, Executive Committee members, and Governing Council members.
- Scott reviewed the publications that all members should be receiving: The Scoop, NYSUT United, NEA Today, and American Educator.
- Scott reviewed WITA goals.
- Scott reminded all members of our WITA website (WITEACHERS.org). Scott informed members that there is a pdf version of the contract on the website.
- Scott explained the purpose of our WITA Constitution.
- Scott explained Collective Bargaining to the new members. Scott distributed information about Janus vs. AFSCME and spoke about possible impacts to unions. Scott announced that union commitment cards would be coming this spring.
- Scott reminded members that our current contract expires June 30, 2018. Negotiations for a successor contract are underway.
- Scott reviewed the procedure that members should follow when having contractual issues. See your building principal first, and then a building representative if there is no resolution to the problem. It is important to follow directives from administrators so as NOT to be insubordinate. Always see building representatives if you have any questions.

III. Wendy Boomer-Secretary

- The minutes from the January 9, 2018 Governing Council meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Beth Ford and seconded by Tammy Jaynes. The minutes were approved by all.

IV. Todd Fleming-Treasurer

- Todd presented the treasurer’s report for the month of January 2018. A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Robert Sanchez and seconded by Maureen Bacchetta. The report was approved by all.
- A motion to donate up to $300.00 in support of the Adam Milne Game was made by Todd Fleming and seconded by Anna Conti. The motion was approved by all.
- A motion to donate $60.00 to the Dodge for Josh Game was made by Lauren Reinert and seconded by Beth Ford. The motion was approved by all.

V. Steve Schockow-Executive Vice President

- Scott presented the Board of Education Capsule Summary from January 18, 2018.
- The next Board of Education Meeting will be February 15, 2018 at District Office.
- Steve explained what a caucus is to the membership.
- Steve explained the grievance procedure to the membership.
- Steve explained the meaning of a class action grievance to the membership.

VI. Kate Dobosz-Second Vice President

- Kate thanked new members for attending today. Kate emphasized the importance of Building Reps as a contact person when you have questions. Kate announced that the next WITA Social Committee Event is February 16, 2018 from 4-7 p.m. This free event will take place at Radio Social. Kate distributed raffle prizes throughout the meeting.

VII. Jeff Guercio-Grievance Chair

- Scott announced that there are no current grievances.

VIII. Julie Wolf-VOTE/COPE Chair

- Julie explained VOTE/COPE to the membership.
IX. Maureen Bacchetta-PTSA Chair
   • Maureen announced that she shared the WITA ideas concerning parent/community events with the PTSA. The PTSA will get back to us.

X. Jane Beamish-NYSTRS Chair
   • Jane explained the role of the NYSTRS representative. Jane encouraged all members to contact her if they have any retirement questions.
   • Scott reviewed the difference between ERS and TRS for the membership.

XI. Tammy Jaynes-Political/Legislative Action Chair
   • Tammy explained NYSUT’s role in political action and how members can get involved locally.
   • Tammy explained the NYSUT Member Action Center. See www.mac.nysut.org for more information.

XII. Scott Steinberg-President’s Report
   • Scott announced that all members have the right to Union Representation at disciplinary meetings.
   • Scott reminded members that a variety of logo wear is available for purchase. Logo wear purchases support WITA scholarships.
   • Scott announced that the United Way Campaign would begin soon. Scott thanked Building Reps in advance for their help in distributing materials.
   • Mary Beth reminded members that the Excellence in Education Banquet would be held on May 15, 2018 at Glendoveers. Rogers School is hosting. Nominations for Beverly F. Engel Excellence in Education Awards will be sent out after February break are due by March 29, 2018. Information on raffle donations and invitations will be sent out after February break.
   • Scott announced that the next WITA Officer and RA delegate elections would be held in the spring 2019.
   • Scott clarified sick day information. Please contact Scott or a building representative if you have any questions regarding sick days.
   • Scott reviewed what our 105 plan is and how to use the Beniversal card.
   • Scott explained Red Flag Reporting to the membership.
   • Scott met with Mr. Crane on January 30, 2018. Their next meeting will be on February 26, 2018.

XIII. Building Issues: Please contact Scott if you have any building issues.

XIV. Dates and Announcements to Remember
   • WITA Social Event is February 16, 2018 from 4-7 pm at Radio Social
   • WITA Negotiations Team Meeting is March 1, 2018 at WITA Office at 3:30
   • WITA Logo Shirt Day for Scholarships is March 2, 2108
   • Committee of 100 is March 5-6, 2017 in Albany
   • WITA Executive Committee at WITA Office is March 7, 2108 at 3:30 (rescheduled from March 6, 2018)
   • WITA Governing Council Meeting at IHS Campus Center is March 13, 2018 at 3:30
   • NYSUT ED 5/6 Meeting is March 14, 2018 at Canandaigua Inn on the Lake (registration required)
   • WITA Negotiations Team Meeting is March 20, 2018 at WITA Office at 3:30 (rescheduled from March 14)
   • District 25/35 Year Staff Recognition is March 22, 2018 at IHS Campus Center at 3:30
   • Excellence in Education Dinner is May 15, 2018 at Glendoveers

XV. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tammy Jaynes and seconded by Robert Sanchez. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Boomer
WITA Secretary