

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:40 by President Scott Steinberg.
- II. Scott Steinberg-President's Report
 - Scott welcomed new members to the February Governing Council Meeting/New Member Event.
 - Scott thanked Joe Pelliccia for coordinating today's event.
 - Scott introduced WITA Officers, Executive Committee members, and Governing Council members.
 - Scott reviewed publications that members should be receiving: *The Scoop*, *NYSUT United*, *NEA Today*, and *American Educator*.
 - Scott announced that the new WITA website, WITEACHERS.ORG, is now available to all members.
 - 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.
 - Scott explained collective bargaining to the membership.
 - Scott announced that our newly ratified contract expires June 30, 2018.
 - Scott introduced Bob Rosenberg and Terri Trotta from NEA Member Benefits/Lincoln Financial. Bob and Terri shared information about financial investments, retirement plans, and the "Degrees Not Debt" program.
- III. Wendy Boomer-Secretary
 - The minutes from the January 12, 2016 Governing Council meeting were reviewed.
 - A motion to accept the minutes was made by Maureen Monaghan and seconded by Jason Rugg. The minutes were approved by all.
- IV. Todd Fleming-Treasurer
 - Todd reviewed the treasurer's report for transactions through January 31, 2016.
 - A motion to accept the January report as presented was made by Robert Sanchez and seconded by Beth Ford. It was approved by all.
 - Todd made a motion to sponsor the Adam Milne game at the cost of \$300.00. The motion was seconded by Nancy Reece. It was approved by all.
 - Todd made a motion to donate \$100.00 to Goin' Bald for Bucks. The motion was seconded by Jean Walsh. After discussion, Jane Beamish moved to amend the motion to donate \$150.00 to Goin' Bald for Bucks. The amendment was seconded by Ellen Tuohey. The amended motion was approved by all.
- V. Joe Pelliccia-Second Vice President
 - Joe reported that we have signed up 64 new members this school year.
 - Joe asked members to reach out to new hires in order to facilitate joining WITA.
 - Joe raffled off several prizes to new members and governing council members during the meeting.
- VI. Maureen Bacchetta PTSA Chairs
 - Maureen announced that the PTSA Honorary Lifetime Award is February 9, 2016.
- VII. Julie Wolf-VOTE/COPE Chair
 - Julie explained VOTE/COPE to the membership.
- VIII. Jane Beamish-NYSTRS Chair
 - Jane reminded members that it is never too early to begin retirement plans. See NYSTRS.org for more information.
- IX. Scott Steinberg-President's Report
 - Scott explained that all members have a right to union representation at disciplinary meetings.
 - Scott announced that a variety of WITA logo-wear is available for purchase. Contact Scott if you are interested. Profit from sales go to student scholarships.
 - Scott reminded members to check out the NYSUT Member Action Center at mac.nysut.org for political/legislative information.

- Scott announced that election endorsements will be coming from NYSUT in September, 2016.
- Scott announced that United Way campaign information will be coming from the district after February break, 2016.
- Scott announced that the Excellence in Education Banquet is on May 17, 2016. This year the banquet is hosted by the high school. Julie Wolf reminded members that the banquet will be held at Glendoveers.

X. Steve Schockow-Executive Vice President

- Steve explained what a caucus is to the membership.
- Steve explained the grievance procedure to the membership.
- Steve presented the Board of Education Capsule Summary from January 21, 2016. The next Board of Education meeting will be February 25, 2016 at District Office.

XI. Scott Steinberg-President's Report

- Scott announced that WITA elections for Officers and NYSUT RA delegates will be held in the spring.
- Scott announced that the Constitution Revision Committee will present recommended changes to the Governing Council at the March 8, 2016 meeting.
- Scott presented WITA's position on opting out of state tests. The WITA believes that it is a parent's right to choose whether or not their child will participate in state testing.
- Scott explained 105 plans to the membership.
- Scott explained the district's anonymous Red Flag Reporting service to the membership.
- Scott met with Mr. Crane on January 25, 2016. They will meet next on February 29, 2016.

XII. Building Issues: No building issues were discussed today.

XIII. Dates and Announcements to Remember

- MCFT Legislative Forum at RIT Inn & Conference Center is February 20, 2016 at 8:00 a.m.
- WITA Executive Committee at WITA Office is March 1, 2016 at 3:30
- WITA Logo Shirt Day for Scholarships is March 4, 2016
- NYSUT Committee of 100 in Albany is March 7-8, 2016
- Governing Council at IHS Faculty Cafeteria is March 8, 2016 at 3:30
- District 25 Year Staff Recognition at IHS Campus Center is March 10, 2016 at 3:30
- Excellence in Education Banquet at Glendoveers is May 17, 2016

XIV. Scott thanked new members for coming. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jason Rugg and seconded by Tammy Jaynes. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Boomer
WITA Secretary