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### **March 4, 2024 meeting.**

Attendees: Harry Redford, Tony and Linda Homolka, Eddie Weaver, Henry Hinojosa, Doug Petee, Brian Watters, Tom Ciacelli, Ralph Luft, David Harvey, Steven Marshall, Tim Kolb, and David Krawetzke.

The 50/50 raffle was won today by Dave Harvey.

Treasurer's report: We have \$33.00

Members had a good time catching up on this warm late winter day.

Thanks to the 8 members who filled out their Forerunners membership forms and paid. I will collect one more time in April and then send them in all together.

A live call was made to our friend, Gherin, who was fogged in this morning in Swanton. He is receiving radiation treatments but feeling OK. We wish him a return to good health.

Dave Krawetkze reported that he is dealing with identity theft...again. He warned us to watch our accounts carefully for this. It is a very lengthy and confusing process to correct.

Recall that we made our annual donation (\$300) to The Sunrise House and Shelter by Family Counseling and Shelter Services this year. Linda reported that this donation was submitted for matching funds from CMS. This was approved so our donation was doubled!

The following email was received from Helen Riendeau, Secretary of the Forerunners Board: Happy Saturday and Return to Daylight Savings Time!

My, how winter has flown by (so far, anyways)! Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at Reno's East Sports Bar & Grill, 1310 Abbot Rd., East Lansing, MI, beginning at 11:00 am.

For your review, please find attached the Minutes of our October 11, 2023 meeting. Please let me know (1) if you plan to attend the April 10th meeting; and (2) if you have any agenda items to be included.

I am including it here for your review. You can see how active your Forerunners Association is. Your paid dues help this to happen.

## MINUTES

### FORERUNNERS' BOARD MEETING

Reno's East Sports Bar & Grill

1310 Abbot Rd.

East Lansing, MI 48823

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

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Attending the meeting were:

Kathy Gabriel President/Treasurer (Jacksonians)

Vonda Belanger Vice President (Blue Flames)

Helen Riendeau Secretary (Capitaliers)

Joann Davis Member At Large/Retiree Line Reporter (Jacksonians)

Richard Davis Jacksonians

Rhoda Tinkham Jacksonians

Hank Tinkham Jacksonians

Cheryl Adams Metro Pioneers (Royal Oak, Pontiac, Macomb)

Kathy Morris Metro Pioneers (Royal Oak, Pontiac, Macomb)

Jerry Letson Wonder Watts (Bay City, Saginaw, Midland)

Tom Bollman Easterners (Flint)

Al Morgenthaler Adrianites (Adrian)

Paul Timmins Adrianites (Adrian)

## AGENDA

President Kathy Gabriel called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

The Secretary's Report from the April 19, 2023 meeting and the Treasurer's Reports for the quarterly periods April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023 and July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023 were reviewed. Motions to have them accepted as submitted were passed. It was suggested that the Forerunners' could get better interest rates than 0.8% on the CDs. Kathy will review this with the Consumers' credit union in Jackson who holds our accounts.

Joann Davis gave an update on the Fall/Winter Retiree Newsletter which will be out shortly. All Forerunners' members get either a paper or the less expensive email edition. There is a need for more news from the local chapters. There will also be mention of the 2024 Scholarships (see below). The Retirees' Web site is getting improved.

Kathy and Nora Brezinski will meet with Miles from Consumers' IT on October 23<sup>rd</sup> on how to update the files from Fidelity.

Kathy reported that the Annual Golf Outing had 108 golfers. The food at this facility (Hawk Meadows in Howell) was “awesome” and the course was nice. It is requested that if anyone has a suggestion for next year’s golf outing, to please let Kathy know. Kathy also reported that the Annual Luncheon, held at the Cascades Manor House in Jackson, had 98 attendees. Consumers Energy CEO Garrick Rochow was the Guest Speaker and he also took questions from those attending, including on the topics of solar energy and windmills. The entertainment singer was well received. Suggestions for next year’s luncheon are welcomed. Some ideas proposed during the meeting include Meijers’ Gardens in Grand Rapids, Southern Exposure in the Battle Creek area, Waldenwoods Resort (Hartland, MI), Red Poppy (?), and Meadowbrook in Rochester, MI.

The 2024 Scholarships were discussed. It was decided that due to the state of our finances, we could increase the past 2- \$800 scholarships to \$1,000 each. Consequently, we will offer 7-\$1,000 scholarships in 2024. Assuming Richmond Insurance and Flynn Wealth Advisors will continue to sponsor \$1,000 each, the Jacksonians will support 1-\$1,000, the Annual Events (Golf & Grill Luncheon) 1-\$1,000 and the Forerunners’ Building for the Future 3-\$1,000.

Vonda presented that the Forerunners’ Bylaws need to be amended to NOT offer Lifetime membership to members. This had been discussed and proposed at a previous subcommittee meeting. Helen and Rhoda presented the motion which passed; one vote against it. Reports from Local Chapters: Cheryl Adams requested financial assistance for the local chapters with their administrative expenses. She reported that the Metro Pioneers have \$1,300 in their budget, but they have to do 3 US mailings/year to 55 members who don’t have email.

After a quick survey of other chapters, Al Morgenthaler reported that the Adrianites only have \$250 in their budget.

Tom Bollman indicated that the Flint group is still able to mail their materials through the Consumers service center.

It was suggested that those chapters needing help, to let Kathy, Vonda, or Helen know. Gerry Letson of Bay City reported that their meeting was moved from September to October, so he had no news.

Joann Davis reported that the Jacksonians would be having a wine tasting event on October 17th, for which they invited other chapters to attend.

Due to various reasons, Lansing, Livonia/Howell, South Monroe, and Grand Rapids chapter representatives could not attend today’s meeting. In addition, there are several chapters who no longer have anyone willing or able to take on leadership roles, including Alma, Traverse City/Northwest, Muskegon, and Kalamazoo/Battle Creek.

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Monroe Grill. See you then.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Homolka

