SOAR board meeting April 23, 2021 12:30 p.m.

President Jerry Redington called the meeting to order. Those present were: Jerry Redington, Susan Walt, Geri Hendren, Gary Kraft, Leo Patterson, Joe Coates, and Mary Meier. All present have had the Covid 19 vaccination shots and were wearing masks.

It was decided that our first membership meeting of the year will be Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. All attending will be asked to wear masks and to social distance themselves from others. Our membership covers a large area of Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin and the communities and states follow different guidelines and have different rates of Covid present. No refreshments will be served at this first meeting. The room capacity to follow Covid rules is about 50 people. We usually have about 25 to 30 members so we should be okay. In June we should be able to open windows and doors to get good air circulation.

Mary will see that these minutes are distributed through Facebook and other internet communications. She will send a letter to the new retirees of Titan and of the school district during 2020 and until June 2021. Geri offered for SOAR to cover the postage cost if needed.

Gerry will see if he can get a guest speaker for that first meeting.

Geri Hendren, Susan Walt and Jerry Redington delivered the donations of money and toys in December 2020 to the Salvation Army's Toy drive. Geri donated stocking hats that she knitted and has more ready for next year.

Jerry Redington attended insurance meetings through Zoom. There were discussions about slowing the costs down. It was decided that it was best to add a small premium increase rather than raise the costs of the prescription drugs. The insurance committee had a study done to compare our insurance program with others and our score was at 93%.

It was decided not to collect dues for the 2021 year. Some people paid dues in Jan.-March in 2020 but then we didn't meet for the rest of the year nor will we meet half of this year. Next dues collection will be January 2022.

The Asbestos lawsuit payout is still on going. Some who have received payments and had Medicare pay for previous medical procedures are being told that they need to reimburse Medicare. If this has happened to you then you should contact the law firm that is dealing with the lawsuit for guidance. Those who are receiving payments will find the payments come out each quarter not monthly.

We adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Walt

Addendum: Rich Hofmaster will give a program on photography at our June meeting.