

MINUTES OF THE NSARTA MEETING
November 16, 2011 - SAN PEDRO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 am by our president, Judy McFeaters. Sarah Viliarreal led us in prayer. We recited the pledges to the U. S. and Texas flags.

Pat Loewe introduced our guest and one new member.

Judy asked Betty Moseley to stand up and be recognized for the great work she does in sending out the newsletter and other needed information. Judy also recognized Harold Black for his work in keeping us on line.

Program Chairman, Diana Sarfin, explained that the program she had planned was not here, so she gave us a history of Thanksgiving. She then gave us a quiz. Diana Van Pelt added to the Thanksgiving story by telling us that the first Thanksgiving was really in Texas in 1598 near El Paso.

The minutes were on the table, and were approved as written. Our treasurer was not present, but the report was on the table with a balance of \$18,440.53. It will be filed. Corresponding secretary, Gayle Green, gave us a report on some of our members who are not well. Elise Townsend gave us some consumer tips to avoid thieves while we are out shopping.

Judy said it was time to pick a nominating committee. She asked Kay Kelley to read the procedure from the by-laws, in the absence of Mary Beth Gerza. After reading the by-laws, Kay took nominations from the floor for the committee. The nominating committee for 2012-2013 officers will be: Michele Bibb, Carlos Ortiz, Janet James, and Paul Cwiklik. Judy Lynn will be the chairman. Gayle Green moved the nominations cease. It was seconded, and the motion passed. They will meet on January 12 at Janet James' house to draw up a slate of officers.

Josie Broekhove read some letters to the stitchery group from the Department of Public Affairs and the Children's Shelter, thanking them for the wonderful and useful items they had made and donated. We appreciate their hard work and dedication.

Carlos Ortiz gave us a legislative report. He explained that there are groups working to change our retirement from defined benefit to defined contribution. He gave us a website to keep us informed on this matter -- www.nirsonline.org. Carlos and Paul explained about some proposed changes on our TRTA dues, both the amount and how we pay it. Sandra Neubert moved that we hold off on making any decisions on this until we get more information in the future. The motion was seconded and passed.

Judy reminded us about the Christmas luncheon at the San Antonio Country Club on December 21. She also reminded us about the board meeting on January 11 at San Pedro Presbyterian Church. Belinda Britten won the door prize of a free Christmas lunch. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Barbara Jates
Recording Secretary