AEA-Retired
Executive Board Meeting

Draft

Date: Thursday, October 7, 2008 Time: 10:00 AM
Location: AEA Headquarters Board Room 345 East Palm Lane, Phoenix, Arizona 85004

President Somo, Vice President Bing, Treasurer Stephenson, Secretary Horwin, Past President K.Campbell;
Board Members: Aber, Arnold, Freed, Grigsby, Mehok, Michels, Moy, Pickens, Pierce, Ramos, Swinford, Thieken, Zuniga ;
Emeritus, Committees, Members: Bishop, J.Campbell, Krantz, Sommer, Spitzer, NEA President Matteson,
AEA Liaison Mike Aicone Guests: Connie Wittig, Shirley Boswell, Clorinda Graziano

Agenda	Actions/Minutes
1. Call to Order	President Somo called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. She passed around an envelope for donations to fund Hospice in honor of Billie Fugate, whose active leadership in AEA-Retired Leadership we all miss. Paula Grigsby shared that on Sat., Oct. 11, a memorial service will be held in Lakeside. Email Paula Grigsby for details. Her service in Tucson was well-attended, and lovely. Pres. Somo also passed an envelope to contribute to a wedding gift for Jennifer Daily, AEA Lobbyist in celebration of her marriage to the Honorable John Loredo. Horwin: Make name tags for favored board members, Juan Zuniga and Richard Spitzer.
2.Approval of Agenda	Moved and seconded to approve agenda with flexibility by Ken Freed/Juan Zuniga. Add under item no. 4, c: Mileage Reimbursement PASSED
3. Previous Minutes	Moved and seconded by K. Freed/J. Zuniga to approve Sept. 11, 2008 minutes. **PASSED**
4.Financials a. Treasurer's Report b. Budget Revision c. Mileage Reimbursement Increase.	Treasurer Jean Stephenson presented and explained the financial report, pages 6-9. It was moved and seconded by J.Stephenson/Frank Bing to accept the financial report. **PASSED** President Somo led the discussion about the Budget Revision and Mileage Reimbursement. The Budget Committee met on Sept. 22. See Board Packet pages 10-13. It was moved and seconded to accept the Revised Budget recommended by the Budget Committee by J. Horwin/F. Bing. There was some discussion about individual line items. It was noted that Honorary Members, while paid for by AEA, do not bring income from dues to AEA-Ret., so must subtract their number from AEA-Ret. Income projection. **PASSED** It was moved and seconded by J.Horwin/J.Zuniga to accept the recommendation not to raise the reimbursement rate at this time and to continue to gather data relative to mileage reimbursement for future discussion and recommendation by the Budget Committee in January, 2009. Discussion centered on the needed information prior to making decision to increase reimbursement for mileage. Discussion also centered around the need to develop and put into practice clear guidelines for mileage reimbursement. **PASSED**
5. Old Business Constitution & Bylaws	John Campbell explained that the Constitution and Bylaws forbids limiting the no. of offices a member may hold. It was noted that this committee recommended listing other offices held by members when running for positions. Apart from Constitution and Bylaws Committee information, John also mentioned that there is a Retired Coalition Meeting scheduled at AEA Headquarters on Oct. 29 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Seven members indicated they would be present at that coalition meeting. He passed out a tentative agenda.

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6. New Business AEA Finance Review Committee	Juan Zuniga reported that the AEA F.R.C. Committee met in September. They reviewed their charges for the year. Among the charges to review the dues structure concerning AEA-Retired are the following: dues-generated income compared to cost of services to AEA-Retired; AEA-Retired dues compared to other State Retired Associations. Juan asked for the following information: What are the services provided by AEA to AEA-Retired and their costs; What benefits do AEA-Ret. Members derive from AEA. Other charges of the AEA FRC Committee are the following concerns: How do we pro-rate members' dues who sign up before or after the year begins? Conduct on-going feasibility study of Continuous Membership. NEA-Ret. Pres. Matteson noted that NEA-Ret. Is probably not paying its own way, as we receive a great deal of services for the amount of dues we pay. She also noted it may be a good idea to follow lead of other states' practice of making membership an automatic deduction for any new members who join.
7. Standing Committee Reports a. Membership b. Legislative c. ASRS	Daina Swinford remarked on high no. of membership renewals. Pg 15 95% of new members use dues deduction. She also noted that those who are not members lose their life insurance. A letter stating this insurance info. went out to all members earlier in the year. At this time there are only 58 non-renewals. She passed out list with hope that board members with personal relationship will call to remind them to renew membership. Julie Horwin reported about upcoming Leg. Elections, endorsed candidates, Legislators who will be elected, & those who won't return. Also, 4 Propositions on which AEA has taken a position. Pg 16. Pres. Somo passed out a booklet by AZ Advocacy Network which summarizes the Propositions, and show the supporters and opposition of each. Julie also noted that AEA is on the front line fighting against Prop. 105. Part of our campaign involves a Rapid Response Team. We are leveraging the Internet for this effort. Rapid Responders make themselves available to write (or submit) letters to the editor and help with viral emails—to get people to watch our TV ad on You Tube for example. Please join this team or recommend others who can join our cause. It takes 30 minutes to be trained and all you need to do is call in and be in front of a computer during the training time. You do not need to drive anywhere and training is available to anyone anywhere in Arizona (or Arizonans who are traveling anywhere in the world). The next three trainings are: Wednesday, October 14th at 5 or 7 PM Tuesday, October 14th at 5 PM **Other times at your request Contact Jim Breitlinger:** jbreitinger@riester.com Steve Ramos reported on ASRS Return-to-Work meeting & ASRS Board Meetings. Next ASRS Board Meeting is Oct. 17. S. Ramos reported that the ASRS plans to go to the Legislature with a bill. (See pages 17-20 in Board Packet for explanation of proposed bill.) They will begin by explaining how R-to-W impacts the ASRS fund. The idea of the bill is to charge the school district the contribution rate for each R-to-W school employee. (Unlawful to charge the retiree, and can't charge the private company.) This charge will be calculated based on the deficit to the ASRS Fund that R-to-W is creating. Those retirees who sit out a year prior to returning to work will not be impacted by this proposed bill. Sitting out a year and returning to work has not been found to impact the ASRS Fund. It has been found that R-to-W has resulted in active education employees retiring 2 years earlier than expected which impacts the actuarial figures and results in increased contribution rate. Ramos noted that this proposed legislation will need the support of the active members. This will most likely be easy to obtain because each active member is paying a higher contribution rate because the "Smart School" employee is not paying into the ASRS Fund.

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d. AZ Impact Mentoring	Also, due to the the impact to the fund, the contribution rate increases. It was suggested that an informational powerpoint presentation be created in order that it can help to increase understanding of active and retired employees. It was moved/seconded by J. Horwin/K. Campbell that AEA-Retired supports and recommends this legislation (pending approval by ASRS Board) be included in the AEA Legislative Agenda for the next Leg. Session. **PASSED** S. Ramos noted, relative to the PBI, that Director Mattson of ASRS seems sold on 10 year smoothing, so that is probably not going to change. Steve suggested that AEA-Retired may wish to reconsider the 1% COLA. Steve remembers that Matteson may have mentioned that it would include language such as "either 1% COLA or equivalent of what the PBI would have been." Paula Grigsby reported on Grant Committee Meeting of Oct. 5. See attached notes. A calendar which is friendly to students is being created. Beginning celebrations are planned for Oct. 8 in Phoenix and Oct. 8 in Tucson. Much has been created around communication, attention to mentors, and to creating two new programs: A Flagstaff group and the First Five Group for teachers in their first years of teaching
8. Grant Committees a. Intergenera-tional Mentoring b. TEF	Paula Grigsby reported on the funds for each grant. (See financials page 8) The grants are funded for this year, and fundraising will continue in order to fund for upcoming years. President Somo reported that the money for all grants (AZ IMPACT, TEF) will come in Oct. or Nov from NEA-Retired. AZ is a targeted state by NEA for roll-out of T.E.F. information internally and externally to the community. There is a coordinated effort by NEA, AEA, and AEA-Retired to create a powerpoint presentation that is specific to AZ.
9. Board Committee Reports a. Az Impact Fundraiser EcoPhones	Pres. Somo reported that AEA-Ret. Is registered with EcoPhones Recycling. She included a hand-out today that gives on-line address and gives all information necessary, including fliers which you can personalize for your chapter or other organization. There is no charge to mail the cell phones and other electronics you collect. Follow the instructions on-line to order the packing slip. On-line address for EcoPhones: http://green-recycling-fundraiser.org/ Enter the information found on the Lavender flier included in the Board Packet
10. Local Chapter Reports a. Phoenix	Frank Sacco modeled a reminder letter with guest speaker for Phoenix chapter meeting. Glendale chapter appreciated Steve Ramos' presentation to them. A member recruitment drive is on-going in that chapter. Tucson chapter has a membership recruitment activity and enrolled 3 new members. Next meeting: Oct. 15 "Solutions" a higher education group will be guest speakers. G. Mehok reported that newest local chapter, Sierra Vista will have its first meeting on October 20.
11. Officer Reports AEA Liaison a. AEA & NEA B.O.D.	Mike Aicone reported that he is pulling together data requested by the AEA Finance Review Committee. He will have all information for Oct. 21st F.R.C. He is also readying for the AEA Audit. President Somo asked that members read the Sept. AEA B.O.D. minutes included in this packet. She reported that while the AEA Board report for Sept. is included in this packet, another 2-day AEA Board meeting was held this last weekend. Those notes will be included in the next board packet for Nov. or sent out to you separately. A rally was held Saturday for all working people and unions. John Wright was a speaker at the very large gathering. Volunteering for campaigns and voting was the purpose.

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	AEA Member Benefits Task Force minutes of Sept. 13, are included in this packet.
b. NEA-Ret. Advisory Council – Pres. Matteson	NEA-Retired President Matteson included her notes from NEA-Retired Advisory Council meeting of Oct. 1, 2008. She presided over the NEA-Ret. Advisory Council meeting. She noted that while the "This Active Life" is smaller, it is more costly. Information about why is being researched. Plans for Annual Meeting in San Diego are underway. A $60 registration fee has been approved. Retired members are very involved with Election 2008, and AZ is right at the top.
c. Vice President Bing	Vice President Bing reported that the Conduit is scheduled, after many difficulties, to go out next week. The deadline for articles for the next issue is Oct. 17, Friday. The next Conduit will include AEA-Retired Elections information. The new computer has been installed in the AEA-Retired office. He and Steve Ramos are scheduled for a pre-retirement presentation in Globe in December.
d. Secretary Horwin	Sec. Horwin reported that Harry Mitchell is very pleased and grateful for the help that AEA-Retired members have given on the phones for his campaign. He intends to carry the water on our issues in Congress if he wins. "I am right there with you." AEA-Retired members are also active through Aurora Aber in Tucson, working on targeted campaigns including Gabby Giffords' congressional campaign.
e. President Somo	Pres. Somo reported that there is a debate watch party at AEA Headquarters for the next Presidential debate on Oct. 15. You must RSVP. Dues-Tab life insurance for association leaders if you apply on-line at neamb.org. If you are injured/killed while attending to Association business, you are insured for $50,000.00. You must apply. An orange flier was given out at this meeting with information. Summer Leaders Retreat Planning Committee met. Location of summer retreat will be the Wigwam. AEA-Ret. Board meeting July 14, 2009, July 15-16 Leaders Retreat. Participants include AEA-Retired board members, chapter chairs, committee chairs, committee members, and any members who wish to become more involved. Participants will participate with the Active Members as usual for the General Meetings, keynote speakers, and meals. Break-out sessions will be tailored especially for AEA-Retired members with Strategic Planning being the overall theme, focused on leadership development, budget, membership, and other ideas.
12. Board Activity: Committee Meetings	Pres. Linda Somo noted that the following committees are scheduled to meet after the board meeting from 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM. Membership, chaired by Daina Swinford; Elections, chaired by Judy Moy; Fundraising, chaired by Aurora Aber; and Annual Member Award, co-chaired by Bertha Meyers and Kathy Campbell.
13. Adjourn	Board meeting was adjourned by President Somo at 1:30 PM Next Meeting: Thursday, November 6, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Horwin,
AEA-Retired Secretary