

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of November 14, 2017

1. Call to Order at 10:02 by Secretary K. Freed

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Suzan Austin, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, Linda Somo, Danny Barlow, Shirley Boswell, Marilyn Calhoun, Anna Cicero, Marilyn Freed, Barbara Matteson, Gary Mehok, Luci Messing, Ann Myers, Nancy Putman, Steven Ramos, Tricia Roach, Michele Smith, Susie Sommer, Connie Wittig, Larry Wittig. **Chapter Chairs**; Rob Johan, Janie Hydrick, Nancy Riley, Sally Rosen. **Members**; Aurora Aber, John Campbell, Norma Jimenez, Renee Newman, Frank Sacco, Jean Stephenson, Maria Vinales, Ellen Shamah. **Staff**; Margaret Sleeper. **Guests**; Joe Thomas.

2. Approval of Agenda, with flexibility (Calhoun/Somo) **Approved**

3. Approval of the minutes of October, 2017 (Putman/Somo) **Approved**

4. Membership Processing Chair Boswell shared the most recent membership data. Currently we have 2185 members with 1610 using dues deduct. We have 38 new members this year. (See printed report for more information.)

5. Membership Co-Chair Smith asked the Board how they had made contact with potential members this past month. She talked about the locals that have been adopted and the progress being made. Several members shared what they have been doing as well as suggestions including sending post cards to locals seeking their assistance.

6. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$95,006
Liabilities	\$21,774
Equity	\$73,231

(See written report for more information.)

Linder shared that the payment from AEA, of \$21,000, had been received. He asked as to the appropriate place to bill the printing of labels. This will be moved from Supplies to Political Leg.

Move that the report be accepted and filed for audit. (K. Freed/Barlow))

Passed

7. New Business Item-Bylaws Changes

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

Section 3. Election of At-Large Board Members

In order to **maintain** ~~attain~~ balance in the election of At-Large members to the Executive Board, **6** representatives shall be elected **yearly**, for three (3) year terms.

As follows:

~~2013 Six (6) At Large Representatives~~

~~2014 Six (6) At Large Representatives~~

~~2015 Five (5) At Large Representatives~~

~~In this manner, the Delegates to the AEA Representative Assembly will elect an approximately equal number of Board members yearly, while remaining within the guidelines.~~

“Move to adopt these changes and bring to the delegates at the Annual Meeting with a recommendation of passage by the Board.” (Linder/C.Wittig)
Passed

ARTICLE I. MEETINGS

Section 1. Executive Board

The Executive Board shall meet at least six (6) times a year, or at the call of the president, or at the request of ~~any three (3)~~ **a majority** of the Executive Board.

“Move to adopt these changes and bring to the delegates at the Annual Meeting with a recommendation of passage by the Board.” (Somo/Matteson)
Passed

ARTICLE III. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 5. Representatives-at-Large

The Representatives-at-Large shall:

A. ~~Meet with the~~ **Attend at least 70% of the** Executive Board meetings.
~~on a regular basis~~

Note: B, C, D remain unchanged.

“Move to adopt these changes and bring to the delegates at the Annual Meeting with a recommendation of passage by the Board.” (Somo/C. Wittig)

Move to amend. (M. Freed/Roach) To substitute “expectations are;” for “shall.”
Failed

Return to main motion. **Passed**

Officers' Report

President Horwin-shared that the New Educator Program is awesome and having wonderful results. Lists of recent retirees are being provided. Regarding her trip to NEA-Retired Executive Council, in DC, she shared a story about meeting a Georgian Uber driver who idolizes McCain and bringing him to her meeting with the Senator to lobby him. Information was provided that AEA-Retired has received grants for the Auto Dialer and for M.O.R.E. The President facilitated the MORE legislative panel and asked Senator Worsley about his vote on vouchers and what he plans to do if asked to withdraw the bill.

Horwin shared information about the Summit and NEA Conference. She voiced great concern over the fact that the retired conference has been cut from 20 hours of training to 8 hours. She has voiced her displeasure with NEA pointing out that the members of NEA-Retired Executive Council did not get the opportunity to prioritize what should be covered in the shorter meeting. She also went over who would be attending from AEA-Retired and how it was determined.

Horwin, President, Smith, membership chair, Messing, political action chair and Meyers, recently elected Board member, were the selections. Additionally, Horwin, Matt Kruze and Jennifer Laredo will present the New Educator Program at the Summit.

8. **Vice-President Austin**-No report

Liaison Sleeper-reported that AEA membership is up by 345 members, with membership trending up over the last 4 years. Active membership is 13,752 certified and 1,823 classified for a total of 15,575 AEA members. There are also 2,185 retired people that pay dues.

Sleeper shared the situation with the New Educator Project. This year the project has been placed in TEA, Kyrene, Sunnyside, PVEA, Washington, Tempe and Creighton, with the first groups of the year having already been into buildings. Two trainings will take place tomorrow.

NEA is being financially supportive having made commitments of \$151,000 to AEA. She shared that the NEA360's has been launched.

AEA Director Barlow-as part of his written report shared that AEASO and AEA will re-enter negotiations in February.

Included in his report are the agenda, financial report, legislative agenda, and compliance report in draft form from the October 27-28 AEA Board Meeting. Also, there was recent information on the "accomplishments" of Governor Ducey as well as how Arizona teacher pay compares with neighboring states.

Barlow shared his meeting notes as well as those from Board member Cozad. He also showed us the wealth of information he chose not to duplicate but is available to AEA-Retired Board members upon request.

(A written report by Barlow is included in the packet.)

Conduit Editor Somo-shared that the next edition of the Conduit will be larger due to the sign-up sheets included. She asked that articles be submitted by Dec. 1 and noted that the Conduit would be received by the end of the month.

AEA President Thomas-Shared the process for "objectively" determining who AEA will recommend in the Governor's Democratic Primary. Part of that process includes the Forums that are being hosted and he asked us each to attend one of them. In addition to the Forums, there will be interviews with both candidates.

Thomas indicated that he will be meeting with Paul Matson, ASRS, to try to clarify AEA membership availability to retirees that return to work. Currently they are placed in the "reserve" membership category. He concluded his remarks by sharing that the AEA-Retired Board member, Barlow, does an outstanding job of representing AEA-Retired interests.

9. **ASRS**

Ramos reported that the Board voted that United Health will begin to return monies that were overcharged for health insurance. The amount will vary dependent upon in which plan you are currently enrolled. This will happen over the next 4 years.

The ASRS Board also voted to decrease the rate of return requirement to 7.5% and to pre-fund the PBI. The effect of this will be that actives' actuarially determined rate taken from their pay will rise from 11.5% to as much as 13%.

10. Political Action

Messing briefly shared her report and opened it up for questions. She indicated that there would be a committee meeting at 1:00 and asked people to attend.

(See written report Messing included in the packet.)

11. M.O.R.E.

Chairperson Calhoun reported on the attendance of the two events last week. A total of 82 people took part. The next event is the Leadership Convocations which will include a reception from 5-7p.m. at the Wyndham Gardens in Phoenix on Dec. 5, and a workshop, from 9a.m.-2p.m. on Dec. 6 at AEA Headquarters. Rooms are available for out of town attendees to be reimbursed based on AEA-Retired policy.

(See written report Calhoun included in the packet.)

12. Chapter Chair Reports

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer)- Meetings are held at Iron Works Restaurant, 17233 N. 45th Ave., Glendale. The **Next meeting is Thursday December 7, 2017** at 4:00.

Mesa (HydrickSomo)-The **Next meeting is November 15** at 63 East Main Street, Mesa, on the 8th floor of the MPS Building, at 10:45, where the discussion will be with Mark Robert Gordon, a federal voting rights attorney. He will speak on the insidious plan to deny voters their right to vote and suggest ways that we can prevent this from happening. Additionally, for the first time, we've created two lists for Mail Chimp campaigns; one from AEAHQ-R EV with 295 recipients and the second with our old AEA-R EV list with 86 recipients. These were opened an average of over 70% of the time after being sent twice. The chapter followed up with phone calls to members without email addresses. Though there was no significant increase in RSVPs for the November meeting, the chapter will continue using Mail Chimp for the January meeting.

Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Myers/Riley)-The **Next meeting will be on November 20** at 11:00a.m. at Denny's Restaurant on Mayo Blvd and Scottsdale Rd. Dr. David Garcia, candidate for governor of Arizona, was the October guest speaker.

Tucson (Pickens/Matteson)-The Tucson chapter met on October 17th and discussed current political issues. Future activities were enumerated and people's attendance was requested. The **Next meeting is November 21**, at the Southern Region office at 10:00a.m., when George Cunningham, from the Grand Canyon Institute, will be the speaker.

Phoenix (Smith)-The Phoenix chapter will meet at Beatitudes at 1610 W. Glendale, with the **Next meeting being on November 21** at 10:30a.m. The speaker will be Korina Ruiz on immigration

Southeast Arizona (Rosen)-The **Next meeting will be in mid-January**. Fifteen members met at Applebee's on October 25 and enjoyed a good meal and a discussion of Sierra Vista School District issues. In attendance was a member of the Governing Board.

Yavapai (Johan)-The Yavapai chapter's **Next meeting will be Thursday, November 16** at the Prescott Family Diner in Prescott with Jan Nichols as the speaker. The October 12th meeting was attended by 7 members. In addition to participating in the

Oct. 18th DKG service project at a Prescott elementary school, the chapter plans to have members carpool to the Nov. 1 Gubernatorial Town Hall in Flagstaff. On Nov. 2, members will visit the Yavapai College Southwest Winery in Clarkdale.

Flagstaff (Roach)-The Next meeting is Dec. 5 at 10:a.m. At the November 7 meeting the members discussed the LD 6 Candidates for the Arizona Legislature, the Primary Candidates for Governor Forum, David Schapira's campaign for Superintendent of Public Instruction, an ASRS update, the Diane Douglas school funding error and a gun safety update. Updates on specific areas were provided and all were encouraged to continue becoming an expert on a specific issues. Areas included; the Ducey pay raises for staff, the Federal tax "reform" bill, Indivisible Team Training, Political Advocacy Training and the circulating of petitions for Katie Hobbs.

13. Alliances and Coalitions

A. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans- Hydrick, who is the Treasurer, asked all to make certain that they received the weekly, Friday, reports. If someone is not, please get in touch with her.

B. Arizona Interfaith Network-L. Wittig's written report was shared with the group. He indicated that issues that will shape Arizona's future are Work, Education and Water. Wittig also asked for 5 volunteers to attend the VIP Delegate Assembly. 6 people volunteered.

(See written report L. Wittig included in the packet.)

C. Arizona School Counselors-Cicero shared that the organization has hired an Executive Director and that their most recent meeting was held in Prescott.

D. Arizona Strong Public Schools-Shamah shared information on public education and asked people to sign up and to take signs.

14. Intergenerational Mentoring

Vinares reported that she has been able to recruit mentors with great credentials as well as tremendous attitudes. Unfortunately, the 41 students who were to be mentored are no longer available due to political reasons. She intends to continue the fight.

15. Half-back Raffle of \$31 was won by Ramos.

16. Adjournment at 1:30. The next meeting is Tuesday, December 12, 2017, which will include our annual holiday party and gift exchange.

****Notes ****

Lunch was taken at 1:30 after the meeting adjourned.

THANKS to Nancy/Ann, Marion/Barbara, Sally, Rob, Janie, Susie and Tricia for submitting their chapter chair reports in writing.