



AEA-Retired Annual Meeting Friday May 8, 2020 minutes.

Held on Zoom (virtual meeting) 10:00 am

Attendees: Aurora Aber, Regina Aroneo, Suzan Austin, Francine Bard, Sylvia Barlow, Danny Barlow, Sandie Blakely, Linda Boothe, Shirley Boswell, Margaret Bowerman, Susan Brenden, Patricia Bryant, Marilyn Calhoun, Anna Cicero, Julie Cieniawski, Caroline Cline, Ted Coleman, Cindy Couture, AnnJi Craig-Wooten, Janice Dwosh, Jeanne Erickson, Ellie Feldner, Ken Freed, Marilyn Freed, MaryAnn Goodluck, Michael Gordy, Delia Greth, George Grexa, Katri Hakes, , Bill Honaker, Julie Horwin, Janie Hydrick, Bart James, Norma Jimenez, Howard Johnson, MaryAnn Johnson, Marilyn Kinnie, Eric Kurland, Betty Lightfoot, Steve Linder, Sharin Manes, Barbara Matteson, Forrest May, Gary Mehok , Luci Messing, Lucinda Michaels, Marshall Militano, Rick Miller, Ramon Montano, Ann Myers, Renee Newman, Janice Nichols, Ronda Olson, Chip Parsons, Kay Passmore, Carmen Peters, Marion Pickens, Nancy Putman, Kathy Pyner, Kathy Ramage White, Steve Ramos, Donita Ramos, Frank Ratey, Lenny Reed, William Rhodes, Nancy Riley, Sally Rosen, Ron Rossman, Susan Sain, Ellen Shamah, Michele Smith, Susie Sommer, Linda Somo, Richard Spitzer, Jean Stephenson, Robert Tighe, Anne Tighe, Ann Timney, Elaine Upham, Sandra Warns, Beth Witt, Mark Witt, Larry Wittig, Connie Wittig, Peggy Yeargain, Darcy Zucco, Juan Zuniga (Delegates are listed in bold print above)

Guests: Joe Thomas, Daniella Smith

1. Call to Order, by President Julie Horwin at 10:03 a.m

Welcome by AEA-Retired President Julie Horwin . Approval of agenda for Annual meeting :
We voted to approve the agenda and it passed unanimously. Approval of minutes (May 2019 Annual meeting)
Linda Somo moved the Annual meeting minutes. They were seconded and approved unanimously.
Packet review-- included reviewing the fundraising report, membership and outreach reports, as well as chapter chair reports . The reports were reviewed with all attendees.
Early bird raffle awarded to Marilyn Freed \$50.

2. Election report/Call for nominations : Juan Zuniga

Call for Nominations was made. Speeches were given by the candidates and then voting instructions were given by Juan Zuniga, Elections chairperson.
Six at large positions open on the board. 87 delegates available --77 delegates were certified for this meeting as well as Ken Freed (ex officio) 19% ethnic minorities represented.
Janie Hydrick was voted for President by acclamation, Anna Cicero was voted for Vice President by acclamation, Howard Johnson was voted for Treasurer by acclamation. Then call for nominations for Executive board members.
Patty Ann Bryant nominated herself for the executive board, but we will need 2 additional exec board members (one for one year --Anna Cicero's position, and one for two years for Howard Johnson's position).
There was a motion to open nominations again per Linda Somo, Seconded by Janice Dwosh, one person abstained and then we voted to approve the motion to allow any more nominations -- Norma Jimenez nominated herself.
Speeches were given by the nine at large board candidates then instructions to vote online.

3. Vote online and break for lunch Voting took place between 11-11:40 am. The top 6 candidates will get 3 year terms, the 7th place person will get the two year term , the 8th place person will get the one year term.

4. Drawings - \$100 to two attendees: Winners included : Susan Brenden and Ronda Olson

5. Awarding of Les Reynolds Distinguished Senior Service Award -- Connie Wittig and Barbara Matteson awarded this prestigious award to Shirley Boswell, our Membership Chairperson and Executive board member . Shirley has been active in AEA-Retired for 18 years, and has been the Membership chairperson for 10 years as well as an important executive board member . She brings her warmth and energy to our organization. We sure appreciate her continued efforts!

6. Elections report-- Juan Zuniga : Elections chairperson

Voting results:

President: Janie Hydrick elected by acclamation

Vice President: Anna Cicero elected by acclamation

Treasurer: Howard Johnson elected by acclamation

Board members at large: votes:

Shirley Boswell 50 votes elected to 3 year term

Marilyn Calhoun 59 votes elected to 3 year term

Steve Linder 64 votes elected to 3 year term

Sharin Manes 39 votes not elected this year

Gary Mehok 52 votes elected to 3 year term

Carmen Peters 53 votes elected to 3 year term

Sandra Warns 49 votes elected to 3 year term

Patty Ann Bryant-- elected to fill one year term 43 votes

Norma Jimenez - elected to fill two year term 47 votes

Congrats to all of the elected board members and those who ran who were not elected. Thanks for your candidacy!

7. Breakout session -- Why is the November election important to you (our AEA-Retired members)? We need to support educators, students, working people, environmental issues, etc. We also believe that local as well as state and federal elections are important to us in AEA-Retired. We need to support Social Security, Medicare, and ASRS educator pensions as well for our members.

8. Drawings -- \$100 to two attendees: Winners included Bill Rhodes and Delia Greth

9. ASRS Update-- Steve Ramos

ASRS liquidity is important. Our ASRS retirement system is protected for us in the AZ Constitution. ASRS has a diversified portfolio to withstand shocks in the economy. Currently we are at a 0 percent return year to date. The PBI has not been given since 2005. Money was put into the PBI pool, but not meeting the minimums for a payout.

Changes to the dental plan and updates to the medical plan will be in the future. Thanks to Kristine Ellis for being on that committee! Thanks to Steve Ramos for his efforts with ASRS.

10. ASRS Threat- guest speaker Daniella Smith (ASRC lobbyist)

Daniella is from the AZ Retirement Security Coalition. The Reason Foundation and Equable Institute and others are trying to eliminate pensions and trying to get people into 401K plans only. ASRS is the only defined benefit plan left in AZ. Other groups might want to allow members to either choose defined benefit plans or defined contribution plan (401K) options (ASU) and others might want to do this in the future.

The AZ Senate may adjourn later today and may return in June to deal with budget and other issues. Be aware of what's in the news. Stay involved and vigilant to keep up to date with the latest info on our pensions.

Still \$1 billion in the state rainy day fund. But the AZ Legislature may need to cover Covid-19 issues in the next month.

11. Drawings -- \$100 to two attendees: Winners included : Beth Witt and Kathy Pyner

12. Breakout session -- What can retired members do to impact the upcoming November elections?:

Invest in Ed Petitions in the mail, postcards, phone calls, money to the PAC & candidates, personal emails, social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) ,

13. Drawing --\$100 to two attendees: Winners included Doug Honaker and Betty Lightfoot

14. Joe Thomas --AEA President Joe spoke to us about the latest information on the NEA-RE. We will be only doing

elections and trying to convene it as an online meeting this summer. AEA is doing our best to meet the needs of quality education. Sign up for Permanent early voter list with mail-in ballots for November. Funding cut in 2008-10 by about 20% to the state education budget. Many education staff members received pay cuts and larger class sizes then. In the current situation we may see economic downturns and members have been paid in most cases up to this point in time. Many people are out of work and are unemployed right now. The economy will not get going that quickly with the uncertainty, it will impact public education through the new school year. The upcoming elections are extremely important! We may see some difficult times in the upcoming year. Please vote for candidates that support public education. NEA is working toward getting \$175 billion dollars to the K-12 system in another stimulus payment to the schools. Work to get the Invest in Ed initiative on the ballot before July 2nd, It includes permanent dedicated funding for ESP, class size reduction, and we need this badly! You may get a petition in the mail to get your family to sign.
Thanks for your support and participation in this time!

15. Financial reports: Steve Linder (AEA-Retired Treasurer) - Steve presented the current status of the AEA-Retired balance sheet, and the approved budget for the 2020-21 year.

checking acct. \$100,303.03

savings acct. \$32,372.92

total accts. \$132,675.95

AEA-Retired spending has been limited in the past two months : Annual meeting, NEA leadership summit and the NEA-RA have been canceled in person this year and less travel and meals for exec. board meetings due to pandemic. 2020-21 budget has been approved . We have many things to accomplish and can move a larger balance forward for next year.

16. Email drawing --\$100 awarded to Kent Schipper

Final attendee drawings -- \$100 awarded to Nancy Riley and Susan Sain

17. Closing remarks by Pres. Julie Horwin--Julie congratulated the newly elected officers and executive board members, thanked Anna Cicero (annual meeting chairperson) , as well as Janice Dwosh and Linda Somo for assisting with the Annual Meeting.. She also thanked her executive board , chapter chairs and other active leaders in supporting her throughout her presidency.

18. Gift and thank you from Linda Somo-- Linda presented a generous gift from AEA-Retired officers, exec board and other leaders to Julie (\$735 cash and a purse). Ann Myers also presented a beautiful handmade quilt to Julie from AEA-Retired leaders. Our thanks to Linda and Ann for organizing and making the gift and to Julie for her many years of leadership and service to AEA-Retired.

19. Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. by President Julie Horwin.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice Dwosh AEA-Retired Secretary on 5/11/20

Please stay safe, healthy, and connected with your family, friends and AEA-Retired colleagues!