Draft

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 13, 2011 10:00 AM 345 East Palm Ln Phoenix, AZ

Attendance: Linda Somo, Frank Bing, Julie Horwin, Jean Stephenson, Kathy Campbell, Judy Moy, John Campbell, Mike Aicone, Aurora Aber, Suzan Austin, Shirley Boswell, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, Gary Mehok, Cindy Michels, Carmen Peters, Kathy Ramage-White, Steve Ramos, Susan Sain, Juan Zuniga, Ted Coleman, Maryanne Goodluck, Barbara Joseph, Brenda Pierce, Susie Sommer, Linda Thieken, Guests: Nancy Putman, Liz Hendrickson, Connie Wittig

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. **Call to Order**	Pres. Linda Somo called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM
2. **Approval of Agenda**	Linder/Mehok Moved/2nd to approve the agenda with flexibility. PASSED
3. **Minutes**	Freed/Bing Moved/2nd to approve Minutes from November 8, 2011. PASSED
4. **Financials**	Jean Stephenson led a discussion of Financials for month from November to December, 2011. Horwin/Stephenson Moved/2nd to accept report and file for audit. PASSED Audit: The audit performed by L. Thieken and J. Moy has been completed and they filed a report at today's meeting, noting that because of Treasurer Jean Stephenson's meticulous records and help during the audit, it was completed smoothly and quickly. Horwin/Peters moved to accept the audit. PASSED
5. **Member-ship**	Shirley Boswell noted that there were more renewals this year, in a record short amount of time. Due to this success, an expensive third mailing reminder to renew will not be sent out. Julie Horwin is asked to complete a membership survey of new members from 2011; Did you join when a) a friend/colleague asked b.) response to letter sent to you c.) ad in Advocate d.) on-line at website c.)Other, please explain
6. **Old Business**	Proposal for change to AEA Retired Representation on AEA B.O.D. Pres. Linda Somo led this discussion by reviewing the background information documents including the survey from other states. She explained the need for the change using a slideshow prepared by AEA Secretary, Chris Mayer that showed how AEA Retired membership causes a misrepresentation of weighted votes representation on the AEA Board of Directors. Some suggestions made in regards to possible solutions were: 1) Shrink the ratio of weighted vote on the board 2) Leave things as they are 3) Add a 2nd retired board member from region 16 4) Change the arbitrary number that will cause growth of no. of retired members on AEA board from 4,000 to 3,000. 5) Weighted vote of AEA-Retired changed from 100 to 150 or 125 (because it, too, is an arbitrary assignment in the proposal.) It was argued that each person who is a member should continue to be counted. A member noted that because our numbers are taken from across the whole of AZ and, indeed, the U.S. and include those who will be members over a long period of time, while those who are Active, are geographically and time-bounded. This means that there will always be an advantage which will cause much larger numbers of members that will skew the ratio, or derived weight on the AEA Board of Directors, causing a misrepresentation of the one/person=one/vote. There was continued discussion on the above two points. It was moved to accept the proposal for change to AEA Retired Representation on AEA B.O.D. with the following change to Section 7: When growth of AEA Retired membership is 2000, another AEA-Retired member will be seated on the AEA Board. FAILED

	Moved to accept the proposal for change to AEA Retired Representation on AEA B.O.D.; changing the required number of new members (Section 7) from 4,000 to 3,000. FAILED Moved to accept the proposal, for change to AEA Retired Representation on AEA B.O.D. excepting the Section 7, to be discussed and changed at a later date. FAILED K. Campbell, K. Freed moved to table the discussion of change to AEA Retired Representation on AEA B.O.D. until January. Discussion will continue online. AEA Director Judy Moy, and Linda Somo will send out any new, updated explanations and information as they receive them. PASSED
7. Officers' Reports	o Linda Somo (AEA-Retired, NEA) Met with Joe Rubio, Lead Organizer of Valley Interfaith Project, Dec. 5th; gave him names of some of you to also contact here in the valley (Janie H., Jean S., Susan Sain, Julie, Connie W., John C.) Recruited Bev Potter to head ASU IMPACT program. Met with Liz Hinde & Bev Potter to discuss ASU IMPACT program; can begin recruiting Jan. 4th at ASU; need help in covering the orientation sessions of junior students to recruit; will meet with Jill Oliver to discuss specifics; need volunteers to help; anyone interested? Volunteers to present IMPACT at Junior classes, ASU College of Ed. are the following: Julie Horwin, Frank Bing, Linda Thieken, Nancy Putman, Connie Wittig, John Campbell NEA Board meeting, Thurs., Dec. 8 & Sat., Dec. 10; NEA lost another 37,000 members and must cut more from 2011-2012 budget; lots of important things happening around leading the profession; concerned about failure of Super Committee and possibility of bigger cuts to education is "Sequestration" takes place in 2013 Site of NEA Retired Conference has been changed; lost San Antonio to a larger conference who finalized before NEA had chance to book; currently checking Las Vegas for possible site; should know soon o Frank Bing – Thanked everyone present for their good wishes and encouragement. Was grateful for all, and noted it helped enormously. He also thanked the guest editors for completing and getting out two issues of the *Conduit*. o John Campbell(NEA) Noted that due to the virtual (telephone/computer) NEA Board Meeting, there was less talk, and more action. He will recommend that the practice be continued. It did not allow for lobbying, however. o Judy Moy(AEA) Referred to the AEA B.O.D. minutes. She gave an update of impact of falling numbers of active AEA membership. She explained one of her votes on AEA B.O.D. o Mike Aicone – continued discussion of impact of AEA membership. Noted that AEA Reimbursement to AEA Retired will be cut in half from $4,000 to $2,000.
8. AEA Retired Elections	Chair, Juan Zuniga read the list of those who have turned in their nominations for AEA-DA and those who are running for AEA Retired Vice President, and those who are running for the At-large seat on AEA Retired board. It was noted that due to the change 3 years ago, from 2-year terms to 3-year terms, and all those who were eligible for another term, that there is no longer an overall staggered elections of board of directors. That is why there is only one seat open this year. It was suggested that in the near future a proposal be brought to the board which will allow for staggered terms. Question was also asked about why the very short timeline to get in

	nomination form for AEA-DA. It was noted that originally date was created in order to allow for an election. However, no election has been necessary for longer than 6 years. Because each year we extend the deadlines, it was suggested that in the future we begin with a longer time allowance, which would still allow for an election if needed.
9. AEA Retired Annual Meeting	Suzan Austin reported on the following plans for the Annual Meeting in April: • The theme will be "Retirement: Issues and Answers." • The meeting will be on Friday April 27 from 9:30 AM-3:30 PM. There will be a caucus from 3:45-4:40 PM for delegates and a happy hour with pizza and beer which will be from 4:30-5:30 PM. The Delegate Assembly will begin at 6 PM and continue all day Saturday. • We will have breakfast on Saturday with a caucus at 7:30 AM. • We will again offer a $5 complete lunch on Saturday, which will be held simultaneously with the awards lunch. • Paul Matson will be our keynote speaker. • We may invite Nancy Mackenzie from NEA to be our lunch speaker. • We will invite Gabby Giffords and Mark Kelly to be guests. • The registration form will be in next issue of *The Conduit* along with an article publicizing the meeting.
10. **Chapter Chair Reports**	**Susie Sommer - Glendale/West Valley Chapter**- reported that she attended the Mesa Chapter meeting, and learned much, especially around organizing. She recommends such visits to other chapters by the chapter chairs and members. Glendale/West Valley's latest meeting was held on Dec. 1, 2011. Members enjoyed each others' company while getting the latest information on AEA activities, pension and insurance. A big thank you to those who donated books and toys for Andrea's Closet. They also voted to include a voluntary $1 donation at each meeting for Communities in Schools partnership. The next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012, 4:00 PM at Ironworks Restaurant at Bel Aire Golf Course. For info contact Susie Sommer at http:/www.azedretired.com/GLENDALE/index.html. **Steve Ramos - Mesa / East Valley Chapter:** Chapter members met on Nov. 9 to enjoy a Thanksgiving luncheon, hear guest speaker Ed Rapaport, ASRS manager of healthcare benefits, and receive updates about AEA-Retired/AEA/NEA, ASRS, and legislation affecting seniors. Ed answered questions, and helped solve concerns for 4 members, privately at a table at the back of the room. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, January 11, 2012. Contact Steve Ramos at steveramos2@cox.net or (480) 924-0771 for information. **Aurora Aber - Greater Tucson Area Chapter:** The Chapter meets at 10 AM the 3rd Tuesday of the month from August through May. The meetings alternate between the AEA Southern Region Office and the TEA Office. The Chapter met November 15 and Antonio Galindo from NEA Member Benefits was our guest speaker. Claudia Jensen gave a presentation on the IMPACT PROGRAM at the UofA. A dinner with potential mentees and mentors will be held Dec. 7. A lively discussion was held concerning the pro-posed changes to the weighted vote of the AEA-R. The next meeting will be Jan. 17, 2012 at the AEA Southern Region Office. Go to http:/www.azedretired.com/TUCSON/index.html for more information. **Barb Joseph -Phoenix Chapter**: At the most recent meeting we had about a dozen people present. Our speaker was Scott Hawthornthwaite from the Area Agency on Aging. He talked about the three main services available through his agency for support for care-givers of dementia and Alzheimer's patients. He had lots of good handouts and some very welcome information. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2012 at Metro Tech HS in the Culinary Dept. beginning at 10:30 AM. For information contact Barb Joseph at or (602) 765-0788 or btjoseph@cox.net. **Ted Coleman- Prescott Chapter**: A meeting was held on November 18, and the next meeting will be on January 21, 2012, at the Coco's in Prescott. To join this chapter, contact Ted Coleman at 602-881-5600 or tdashfork@azwildblue.com. **Suzan Austin - Scottsdale/Paradise Valley Chapter:** The group held a meeting on Monday, November 28 and guest speaker John Campbell discussed the Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans. We decided for our service project everyone who chose to do so would donate a dollar at each meeting to the Communities in Schools organization. The next meeting will be on

	Monday, January 23, 2012 at Macayo's on N. Scottsdale Rd. from 11AM-1PM. For information contact Suzan Austin at (480) 947-2089 or visit http:/www.azedretired.com/SCOTTSDALE/index.html. **Southeast Chapter – Sally Rosen** We will meet next on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, at 5:00 pm at Sierra Vista's My Big Fat Greek Restaurant. Please RSVP to azcatsally@aol.com or mpmarsh5857@gmail.com after January 1. We hope to see everyone there. **Maryanne Goodluck - Northern Arizona:** If you are interested in joining this new chapter which has held its first meeting, contact Maryanne Good-luck at magoodluck55@yahoo.com.
11. **ASRS, Steve Ramos**	The ASRS External Affairs Committee has decided on the ASRS Legislative agenda for the next session. 1. They will seek some administrative changes surrounding payments and collections, making it easier recover overpayments. 2. They will create a spousal consent procedure, to be used when a member does not name their spouse as a beneficiary. They will also ask the legislature to clarify that ASRS benefits are not community property. 3. They will go to the legislature and ask for statute changes that allow ASRS to collect a liability payment from "Ineligible Employers". An Ineligible Employers is any employer who goes from public to private or files for bankruptcy or otherwise dissolves. 4. They will ask the legislature to modernize investment statutes. 5. Require Long term Disability claims to be supported by "Objective Medical Evidence". ASRS continues to discuss and develop an information privacy policy. There are still rumors of a Defined Contribution conversion bill being introduced. The last meeting of the Governor's Defined Contribution and Retirement Reform Committee is December 13th at 2:30 at the Capitol. Also looking at possible change to 47%-53% contribution rate by actives. Nothing seen yet, though. He noted that both Jean Stephenson and Linda Somo have been at some of the ASRS meetings. The fund is currently at $26.5 billion and the Plan is 75% funded.
12. **AZ Alliance of Retired Americans**	John Campbell, Vice President of Alliance of Retired Americans, AZ, reported that they had their holiday luncheon in Casa Grande, then visited Paul Gosar's office, which was closed. They purchased a laptop computer for Exec. Director. The Western Regional Conference is scheduled for Las Vegas Feb. 29-Mar.2. Topics: Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare. There will be large sessions and break-out sessions. $80 registration fee before Feb., and $99 hotel room at Bally's. All AEA-Retired members are also members of the Alliance, so are urged to attend. Julie will include an ad in the next E-Newsletter in early January.
13. **AZ IMPACT**	Ken Freed celebrated that Claudia Jensen is again co-chairing the southern IMPACT group with Marilyn Freed. They had a large gathering in a donated building located one block from College of Ed. 30 in attendance. 16 new protégés, 23 continuing.
14. **Half-back Raffle**	How much: $26.00 for AEA-Retired Communities in Schools Partnership and $26 for Judy Moy.
15. **Lunch**	**Holiday Lunch & Gift Exchange** Meeting broke for lunch and gift exchange.
16. **Adjournment**	Time: 3:30 PM Next Meeting: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 10:00 AM AEA Headquarters

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Horwin, AEA Retired Recording Secretary