



Tuesday, March 7 - Called to Order @ 10:01 am

ATTENDANCE: P=present, A=absent

BOARD: Anna Cicero-P, Ken Freed-P, Maria Leyva-P, Steve Linder-P, Julie Horwin-A, Luci Messing-P, Danny Barlow-P, Shirley Boswell-A, Marilyn Calhoun-P, Peter Coston-P, Janice Dwosh-P, Jeanne Erickson-P, Marilyn Freed-P, Norma Jimenez-P, Deb Larned-A, Sharin Manes-P, Barbara Matteson-P, Gary Mehok-P, Marshall Militano-A, Carmen Peters-P, Nancy Putman-P, Michele Smith-P, Susie Sommer-P, Sandra Warns-A

CHAPTER CHAIRS Present: Nancy Riley, Sally Rosen

OTHER LEADERS & GUESTS: Aurora Aber-P, Suzan Austin-A, Kristine Ehlis-A, Ellie Feldner-A, Bart James-A, Marilyn Kinnie-A, Jan Nichols-A, Debbie Odle-P, Steve Ramos-P, Judy Robbins-A, Linda Somo-P, Ellie Perez-Pawloski-P

Land Acknowledgement - Racial and Social Justice - Norma Jimenez

Approval of Agenda- with flexibility. Moved- Ken, Seconded- Gary, Motion: passed

Approval of February Minutes - Moved- Ken, Seconded- Gary, Motion: passed

Financial Report - Steve L./Treasurer presented, and the report moved to audit.

Approval of Financial Report - Moved- Nancy P, Seconded- Danny, Motion: passed

Officers' reports:

- **Anna- Pres. Report**- Saw First Lady, Jill Biden in Mesa. "Paving the Way with Unbreakable Solidarity" is the theme for the Annual Meeting. Shared information from the NEA-Retired president. Met with active presidents to request to recruit more counselors to the AEA.
- **Ken Freed- Vice President**- Attended: Tucson chapter meeting, lobby day, ZOOM meeting relative to reports. Represented AEA-R on a Wednesday Legislative ZOOM Encouraged AEA-R members to seek office at the Annual Meeting.
- **Maria Leyva- Secretary**- Hosted and attended two ZOOM meetings for AEA-R, Purchased new equipment and webcam to ZOOM remotely. Attended Lobby Day on Feb. 23rd and hosted the ZOOM. Researched promotional items, a.k.a. swag, for Membership Committee and created an online presentation for the ZOOM
- **Luci Messing – AEA Director**- Requested more people to contribute to the AEA Fund. Reminder about AEA Education Day at the Capitol on March 15 and 22. Nothing allowed on the Capitol lawn. AEA has a new logo. AEA is selling the purple seat-back covers. **MOTION**- Nancy P: Offer \$100 from rebranding grant to the AEA to purchase the purple covers. Seconded- Danny, Motion passed.
- **Julie Horwin- Past Pres/NEA Director**- AARA Women in Organized Labor featuring AEA Pres. Marisol Garcia. **MOTION**- Ken: Allocate \$500 from travel expenses budget line for people traveling more than 100 miles each way to attend the AARA event.
- * **Ellie Perez-Pawloski -AEA Liaison/Political Director**- NEA wants to offer a workshop "See Educators Run" in Arizona.

NBI's- Steve Linder

Discussion and final approval of the 2023-2024 AEA-R Budget. Moved- Susan S, Seconded- Carmen, Motion: passed.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

Membership- Nancy P/Shirley/Michele- Increase of 5 members. Four of them were recruited from outside the Retired board. Luci handed in a new member form to Nancy P. Day of Action requested by the Florida Ed. Association to contact Florida politicians regarding attacks on educators and student curriculum.

Political Action- Luci- Requested for more people to sign up for the AEA Legislative Update email. Bad bills sent to the Governor will be vetoed.

Racial & Social Justice-RSJ Update- Janice is excited and preparing to present at the NEA Retired National Summit in San Francisco.

Communications:

Website/Instagram- Maria- Excited for mobile ZOOM capability and video on website. Needs more pictures.

Facebook- Steve R- Requested more people to share from the FB page to increase visibility.

ZOOM Link Support- Susie S/Sandy W- Will gladly assist any chapter or group with ZOOM's.

MailChimp/Survey Monkey- Julie H- Preparing to accept registrations for Annual Meeting.

The Conduit Newsletter- Jan, Bart- Requested old(er) issues of The Advocate for reference. March issue in progress.

Strategic Planning- Anna- Reminded everyone about the 2023 NEA Communication Awards. Nominations due by April 17. "Connect the dots." Structural Test Chart is in progress, and needs Membership Strategies for April.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES/AD HOC

ASRS- Steve R- Article submitted for The Conduit.

M.O.R.E.- Linda- Offering East Valley Pre-Retirement Seminar on March 21. MORE Event on April 13. Keynote speaker is Attorney General, Kris Mayes. IBEW Union Hall on 7th Street.

Fundraising- Marilyn F- Raised over \$700 from the board. Tickets will be sold at the D.A.

Annual Meeting- Norma J- Need more helpers to sign up. Bring TWO things for auction.

Elections- Steve L- Have 73:84 slots for delegates registered.

Documents- Ken- All done for the rest of the year.

Budget- Steve L- 2024 Budget was passed as NBI.

Audit- Carmen- No report necessary.

CHAPTER CHAIR - Susie Sommer. Presented DRAFT Manual for Chapter Chairs for feedback.

West Valley- Marshall - Meeting scheduled for April 6.

East Valley- Janie Hydrick- Now, meeting in person on March 8.

Scottsdale/PV- Nancy R- Met on Feb. 20. Next meeting is on March 20.

Greater Tucson- Peter C- Will meet on March 20 with guest speaker, Steve Farley.

Kyrene- Ellen S- Meeting on March 17.

Southern/Sierra Vista- Sally R- Will schedule the next meeting soon.

Interstate Report- Danny- Meeting as long as weather permits safe travel.

Marana/Northwest Tucson- Deb L- Absent

Southwest Phoenix- Marilyn K- Absent

ALLIANCES AND COALITION UPDATES

ARSC- Steve R- Daniella has done a fantastic job this year to deflect bad bills that would have significantly harmed pensions. Staying behind-the-scenes to get things done.

AIN- Ken- Frank is advocating for retirees.

AARA- AZ Alliance for Retired Americans- Linda, Julie- Excited for the AEA to host the "Women in Organized Labor" event on March 24.

Kinnaman Raffle- Ken- Collected \$50. Danny won.

Closure and Adjournment at 1:45 PM