

AEA Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of May 13, 2014

1. Call to Order at 10:05 by President Somo

In attendance; Linda Somo, Ken Freed, Jean Stephenson, John Campbell, Suzan Austin, Danny Barlow, Shirley Boswell, Julie Horwin, Steve Linder, Gary Mehok, Cindy Michels, Carmen Peters, Kathy Ramage-White, Susie Sommer, Juan Zuniga, Ted Coleman, Barbara Joseph, Steve Ramos, Ellen Shamah, Connie Wittig, Mike Aicone, Brenda Pierce, Renee Newman, Luci Messing, Marilyn Freed, Sally Rosen, MaryAnn Goodluck, Linda Thieken, Ed Bufford, Mark Simons.

2. Approval of Agenda (Zuniga/Ramage-White) Approved
3. Approval of the minutes of the March Meeting (Mehok/Linder) Approved
4. Arizona Retirement Security Coalition Horwin reported that the coalition is forming a political arm. The preference to chair this group is a retired, female educator. Currently, AEA is the largest member of the coalition. Ramos shared the situation with the Phoenix first responders and their negotiations with the city. The firefighters have accepted a reduction in compensation, while the police officers have refused and hence have been imposed upon. Also, shared was the potential ballot initiative entitled "Pension reform and anti-spiking, which would be the toe in the door of moving from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. The initial cost implications are an increase of \$400,000 which will have to be paid by Phoenix taxpayers. In addition to this additional tax burden, pensions are diminished.
5. Financials presented by Treasurer Stephenson.

Assets	\$55,836
Liabilities	\$17,900
Equity	\$37,935

Move approval of the report and file for audit.
(Barlow/Zuniga) Approved

Additionally we were informed of a \$500 contribution made to us by AXA which is being used to assist in strategic planning. Also, we are proudly contributing \$769 to Community In Schools.
6. Membership chair Boswell shared most recent membership data. Currently we have increased to 2103 members with 1571 using dues deduct. We were also informed that J. Smith and M. Johnson won the \$125 raffle. Tope recruiters this year were Aber, Somo, Putman and Moy. Each receives \$20. Memberships continue to be sold at retirement workshops. (See printed report for more information.)

7. Officers Reports

President Somo-Thanked all who worked at making the Annual Meeting a rousing success. Shared that retirees donated close to \$10,000 between the NEA Fund and the AEA Fund.

Thanked the Board for her going away present. She is currently researching what new computer to purchase.

Thanked Stephenson and Ramos for doing a Pre-Retirement Workshop. This is the last of the year during which 9 were conducted.

Thanks to Mehok and Matteson for representing AEA_R at recent retirement parties. The President will be attending two more on Tuesday evening.

Announce the attendees at the NEA-R Annual Meeting. Currently K. Freed, M. Freed, K. Campbell, Putman, Moy, Barlow, Stephenson, Mehok and Coleman plan on attending. Also, J. Campbell will be their as a representative on the NEA Board. The three elected representatives are Somo, Horwin and Matteson.

AEA-Retired Day at the Capital is 3/12 and 3/19

Offered special thanks to those members who are leaving the Board. These include: K. Campbell, Aber, Zuniga and Michels.

Vice –President Austin-Shared a **written report** delineating our success at the annual meeting. Special thanks to Chris Mayer, Mike Aicone, Liz Hendrickson, Annji Craig-Wooten and all that made it another outstanding event.

Liaison Aicone-Indicated that the payroll deducts option is beginning to work. Approximately 100 people have recently joined using this option.

The assessment letter has generated \$9,318 from 763 respondents, thus far. The IMPACT fund currently has \$4,824.

AEA Director Moy-Though not able to be in attendance, she shared the April 25 agenda and sent a personal note to the Board. from the AEA Board

NEA Director Campbell-Discussed the NEA budget, which had been discussed at the most recent NEA Board meeting. Seemed to indicate that some of the Leadership/management priorities are misplaced, and should be revisited. The Board moved some of the funding back to the Student Program though that program seemed to take a larger hit than others. Shared some of the expenses that are incurred by the 9 member Executive Committee.

AFT/NEA state mergers were discussed. The elimination of a cap will be forthcoming.

Shared that between he and NEA Director J. Freed they visited all 11 Arizona members of Congress. No sit-in at Senator McCain's office was necessary.

8. The 2014-2015 calendar was presented, discussed and voted upon.
(Sommer/Horwin) PASSED

9. AEA-Retired Elections Chair Linder provided a **written report** of the election results at the Annual Meeting. Additionally, he reported that we exceeded our ethnic representation goal. The goal was 11% and we attained 19%.
10. AEA Fund Council report was delivered by Coleman and Somo. Duvall, Rotolinni, and Garcia have been “Recommended” to the membership. The Council will consider Goddard and Holman on Saturday. The Council will also consider recommendations of “Friendly” incumbents as well as Chair recommendations of state legislators.
11. Chapter Chair Reports/ETC.
 - Southeast Arizona (Rosen) Will be meeting in August in Sierra Vista. Met on 5/12. Are taking on the project of collecting medicine bottles. 16 in attendance.
 - Greater Phoenix (Joseph) will meet on 5/20 at Beatitudes, which is a church supported retirement center, with the speaker sharing how you can become a resident of this facility.
 - Greater Tucson (Ramage-White) Reported that Hydrick presented on 3/18 and will meet at TEA on 5/20.
 - East Valley/Mesa (Somo) The next meeting is 5/14 with Gallindo presenting.
 - West Valley/Glendale (Sommer) Met on 5/1 with Ramos as the presenter. They discussed the Delegate Assembly. Next meeting will be 10/2.
 - Yavapai (Coleman) Will next meet on 5/17 with the goal of engaging more people.
 - Northern Arizona (Goodluck) Had a meeting set on Social Security and the speaker didn’t show. However, 5 members were in attendance. They will try again to meet on 5/21.
 - Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Austin) Met on 5/12 with 18 in attendance for a presentation on stress relief, which included acupuncture. Next meeting is on 9/15.
 - Kyrene (Shamah) Hydrick presented at the March meeting. Will meet next on 5/20 with Missy Epstein as the presenter.
 - TURN (Bufford) Reported on the value of this organization and their Albuquerque conference.
 - Phoenix Valley (Austin/Mehok) Questioned if we want to have a valley wide meeting. If so, when and what type of speaker do we want to recruit?
12. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans (Horwin)
 - The next Executive Board meeting is 6/6 in Casa Grand. Also, the Alliance is attempting to schedule “back home” meetings with Congresspeople during the summer.

13. ASRS (Ramos)

Ramos indicated that we should each read his **written report** from Delegate Assembly. Currently working on substitute issues. Health care has been put out to bid and has only one bid, United Healthcare.

Half-back Raffle of \$29 was won by Ramage-White.

Adjournment at 1:58. Next meeting is September 9 at 10:00AM at headquarters.

****Note ****

One-half hour, duty-free lunch was taken.