

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of January 9, 2018

1. Call to Order at 10:07 by President Horwin

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Suzan Austin, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, Linda Somo, Danny Barlow, Shirley Boswell, Anna Cicero, Marilyn Freed, Barbara Matteson, Gary Mehok, Ann Myers, Carmen Peters, Nancy Putman, Steven Ramos, Tricia Roach, Michele Smith, Susie Sommer, Connie Wittig, Larry Wittig, Juan Zuniga. **Chapter Chairs**; Rob Johan, Janie Hydrick, Nancy Riley. **Members**; Aurora Aber, John Campbell, Ellie Feldner, Norma Jimenez, Cindy Michels, Jan Nichols, Debbie Cross, Ellen Shamah, Kirk Kinsey. **Staff**, **Guests**;

2. Approval of Agenda, with flexibility (K. Freed/Zuniga) **Approved**

3. Approval of the minutes of December, 2017 (Zuniga/M. Freed) **Approved**

4. Membership Processing Chair Boswell shared the most recent membership data. Currently we have 2167 members with 1602 using dues deduct. We have 46 new members this year. (See printed report for more information.)

5. Membership Co-Chair Roach asked the Board about contacting potential members this past month. Putman disbursed money to Horwin (did not accept), Messing, Roach, the Wittigs and to herself for the recruitment of new members.

Smith shared that the AEA-Retired ad will be in the February edition of the Advocate. Also, AEA-Retired shirts have been purchased by 50 members.

The new AEA-Retired posters were presented to the Board.

6. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$104,673
Liabilities	\$ 28,947
Equity	\$ 75,726

(See written report for more information.)

Linder indicated the new grant that AEA-Retired received as well as sharing news about the membership outreach phone calls which will be made by the robo-caller.

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

7. New Business Item-ASU IMPACT Chair Vinaras made the board aware that she is planning to use money that is available to assist in paying the students' dues for this year.

8. Officers' Report

President Horwin-shared the timeline for the budgeting process.

The New Educator Project has grown by 5 more districts. Classroom teachers are appreciative of being asked for their opinions and are responsive. Several join during each visit.

Horwin asked that the Board contribute to an AEA-Retired “Basket” to be given away at the Summit. She will match up to \$300.

She also she will help any committee who wishes to write a grant for next year in order that they are given the same opportunity to learn what is expected as she had when Linda Somo was president.

Horwin is currently drafting a grant for the National Public Pension Coalition for ARSC of \$200,000.

(See printed report for more information.)

Vice-President Austin-Reported on the preparations for the AEA-Retired Annual Meeting. She noted that President Horwin has requested NEA President Eskelsen-Garcia be the keynote speaker with Vice-President Pringle being our second choice. Other suggestions were made if they are unable to attend. Austin shared that she has again requested 2 tables for membership and fundraising. The social format for AEA-Retired at Delegate Assembly will remain unchanged.

Liaison Sleeper-Not in attendance.

AEA Director Barlow-indicated that there had not been any AEA Board Meetings since our last meeting. He will be donating a picture for auction at the summit.

9. ASRS

Ramos reported that United Health is still investigating ways of returning the money that has been overcharged.

A great deal of time was spent sharing why retirees saw a reduction in their income for 2018. In 2016, Congress paused the “Health Insurance Tax” for 2017. This tax was reinitiated in the Tax Reform bill of 2017 which results in higher insurance costs, therefore less money for retirees.

(See written report for more information.)

10. Political Action

Matteson thanked those in attendance at SOS lobby day at the Capitol last Saturday. She noticed approximately 25 AEA-Retired members in attendance.

AEA-Retired will be going to the Capitol on January 18 and February 21. Please sign up to attend.

11. M.O.R.E.

Designee Linder reported that invitations have been sent out to the Leadership Convocation. Chapter Chairs will be individually invited and asked to bring 3 chapter members with them to the event. The event will include a reception from 5-7p.m. at the Wyndham Gardens in Phoenix, on Feb. 26, and a workshop, from 9a.m.-2p.m. on Feb. 27

at AEA Headquarters. Rooms are available for out of town attendees to be reimbursed based on AEA-Retired policy.

12. Chapter Chair Reports

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer)- The Next meeting is Thursday February 1, 2018, at 10:00am at Biscuits, 19420 N. 59th Ave. Glendale. The speaker will be Charlie Gray from Arizona Foster Care Review.

Mesa (Hydrick)-The Next meeting is January 10 at 63 East Main Street, Mesa, on the 8th floor of the MPS Building, at 10:45. The chapter will be acknowledging the end of the giving season and welcome in a season of getting. Speakers will be Antonio Galindo (NEA) and Margaret Sleeper (AEA) about the benefits program. Additionally, Hydrick noted that attendance doubled through the use of “Mail Chimp” and shared how easy it is to use.

Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Myers/Riley)-The Next meeting will be on January 15, at 11:00a.m., at Denny’s Restaurant on Mayo Blvd and Scottsdale Rd., with Steve Ramos speaking about pensions and the Arizona State Retirement System.

Tucson (Matteson)-The Tucson chapter met on December 19th. After conducting business, a holiday pot luck was held. The Next meeting is January 16, at the Southern Region office at 10:00a.m. The agenda includes a report on the AEA-R Board meeting and a presentation by Tani B’hati on aging and end of life situations.

Phoenix (Smith)-The Phoenix chapter will meet at Beatitudes at 1610 W. Glendale, with the Next meeting being on January 16 at 10:30a.m. The speaker will be GG George, a local historian, preservationist, activist and author. She will share historic events over the 20th century and into the 21st century as they relate to historic preservation in the city of Phoenix.

Southeast Arizona (K. Freed)-The Next meeting will be in Wednesday, January 17, at 5:30. The chapter will meet in Hereford at the Pizzeria Mimosa with an expectation of 20-25 attendees.

Yavapai (Johan)-The Yavapai chapter’s Next meeting will be Thursday, January 11 at the Prescott Family Diner in Prescott.

Flagstaff (Roach)-The Next meeting is Feb. 6 at 10:a.m. At the January 2nd meeting the members discussed the Court’s ruling on TUSD’s ethic studies program, the process for the AEA recommending a gubernatorial candidate, an update on Arizona teaching vacancies, and Yarborough’s plan for capping school tax credits. Updates on specific areas were provided and all were encouraged to continue becoming an expert on a specific issues. Areas included; Ryan’s Medicare revisions, writing post cards to state legislators, 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 or President Horwin. This summer’s phone banking can be conducted from home. There will be no need to go to a central location.

B. Arizona Interfaith Network-L. Wittig's written report was shared with the group.
(See written report L. Wittig included in the packet.)

C. Arizona School Counselors-Cicero shared that the counselors will be lobbying the legislature on Feb. 5. She indicated that she was pleased to see the intermingling of the AEA-Retired members and the counselors at the January 6th SOS rally. She also announced that Linda Somo would be receiving the Arizona School Counselors "Distinguished Service Award" at their conference at the end of February.

D. David Schapira election-Shamah shared how to contribute to his campaign even though he has maxed out his seed money. This created discussion in that he is not yet a recommended candidate by AEA. M. Freed suggested that Horwin send out a general announcement as to how a person could contribute to a candidate if that candidate has maxed out their seed money. Horwin asked Shamah to send her the information and she would forward it to the board.

Motion: Move that the AEA-Retired Board not discuss donating to a **specific**, not yet recommended candidate, through their party. (Peters/C. Wittig)

PASSED

14. Elections

Zuniga presented a written report that indicated that 52 members had registered for the Annual Meeting. An additional 12 were shared that came in after the printing. Janie Hydrick is nominated for vice-president and Rose Biggs-Dickerson, Anna Cicero, Julie Cozad, Ellie Feldner, Lucinda Michels, Steve Ramos, Sally Rosen, Larry Wittig and Juan Zuniga have filed to fill the at-large seats on the Board for next year. All terms are 3 years.

15. Half-back Raffle of \$33 was won by Ramos.

16. Adjournment at 12:35. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

****Notes ****

Lunch was taken at 12:35. After adjournment, the Documents Committee met during lunch and Political Action and Membership met after lunch.

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