

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of January 8, 2019

1. Call to Order at 10:04 by President Horwin

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Ken Freed, Janie Hydrick, Steve Linder, Shirley Boswell, Marilyn Calhoun, Anna Cicero, Marilyn Freed, Kirk Hinsey, Barbara Matteson, Gary Mehok, Luci Messing, Cindy Michels, Ann Myers, Carmen Peters, Steven Ramos, Tricia Roach, Michele Smith, Susie Sommer, Connie Wittig, Larry Wittig, Juan Zuniga. **Chapter Chairs;** Rob Johan, Nancy Riley, Sally Rosen, Ellen Shamah. **Members;** Aurora Aber, Susan Austin, John Campbell, Janice Dwosh, Jeanne Erickson, Norma Jimenez, Paula Mueller, Nancy Putman, RaeAnn Rumery, **Staff; Guests;**

Guests were welcomed by President Horwin.

2. Approval of Agenda, with flexibility (Calhoun/Messing) **Approved**
3. Approval of the minutes of Dec. 11, 2018 (K. Freed/Zuniga) **Approved**
4. Membership Processing Chair Boswell shared the most recent membership data. Currently we have 2172 members with 1592 using dues deduct. We have 47 new members this year. There are currently 7 new membership forms awaiting processing with 5 coming from the recent mailing.
(See printed report for more information.)
5. Membership Outreach Co-chair Roach shared that there would be a meeting after the Board Meeting to discuss next year's budget and how to convince people to move to payroll deduct.
6. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$112,446
Liabilities	\$ 23,707
Equity	\$ 88,739

(See written report for more information.)

Linder shared information about the specific lines of the budget and compared the budgeted with the actual expenses. He also noted that the ENews Website line is at 123% because all on-line costs are recorded in that line.

Move that the report be accepted and filed for audit. (K. Freed/Mehok) **Passed**
7. Elections Chair Zuniga announced that there have been 32 Pledge-to-Serve nominations for the Delegate Assembly. Also, 1 person has been nominated for secretary and 3 have been nominated for the 6 at-large seats on the Board.

8. New Business Items-Secretary Freed “Moved that AEA-Retired donate \$500, plus any contributions donated by individuals and chapters, to the Kinnaman Fund beginning fiscal year 2019-2220.” (K. Freed/Messing)

There was discussion so as to have clarity around the motion.

Passed

On behalf of the Documents Committee, Chairman K. Freed moved the following 3 items to be brought to the 2019 Annual Meeting for passage by the elected delegates. Items 1 and 2 were considered as a package.

Discussion Item 1--In The Constitution, Article V Section 3, Change “a term” to **terms**, eliminate “~~no more than~~” and eliminate “~~consecutive~~.” The language would then read; **Officers shall serve for terms of three (3) years, but limited to six (6) years in the same office.**

**Effect if passed--An individual could serve for a maximum of six (6) years in any one position on the Board. This would eliminate the current practice of leaving the Board and seeking the same office after sitting out for as little as a year.

Discussion Item 2—In the Constitution, Article VI Section 2, eliminate the word “~~consecutive~~” in the first sentence. The language would then read;

Representatives-at-large shall be elected by secret ballot for a term of three (3) years, and may only serve for two (2) terms, for a total of six (6) years.

**Effect if passed--This action would have the same effect as the previous recommendation which is to eliminate the possibility of serving as an at-large representative for six (6) years and then sitting out and running again for that position. Discussion Items 1 and 2 should be considered a package.

These items were discussed at length with 12 members speaking to the changes brought by the committee.

Failed

(They will not be taken to the Annual Meeting.)

Discussion Item 3—In the Constitution, Article V, several changes to be considered;

Section 4 change “majority vote of the ~~members~~ of AEA-Retired..” to “a majority vote of the AEA-Retired delegates..”

In subsection E. change “~~membership~~” to “delegates.”

In subsection F. change “~~general membership~~” to “delegates.”

Eliminate the first sentence of Section 4; “~~Officers of the AEA-Retired shall serve terms so long as they satisfactorily perform the duties of the office.~~”

Sentence 2 to be...~~Where~~**When it has been determined** that an officer is **may be** guilty of malfeasance or nonfeasance in office, such officers may be removed for cause. **Said officer shall be** notified, a hearing shall take place. **It**

will take a majority vote of the AEA-Retired Delegates to remove the officer from office.

**Effect if passed-The change would make the removal of an officer the purview of those who are elected to serve as delegates rather than the entire membership of the AEA-Retired.

These items were discussed with 4 members speaking to the changes brought by the committee.

Passed

(This item will be taken to the Annual Meeting.)

9. Officers' Report

President Horwin-Shared a lengthy list of items:

- a. New Executive Director of the Alliance is Dory Vasquez
- b. Chamber of Commerce top agenda item is the elimination of Defined Benefits by the ASRS.
- c. Due to the conformity of the U.S. Tax Code the state of Arizona will reap more than \$200M. Debate is raging as to what is to be done with this windfall. Ducey-put it in the rainy day fund. Dems-prop up K-12 funding. Mesnard-pair Arizona tax code to the U.S. such that there is now windfall.
- d. Senator Sinema has been asked to be our keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting, with Secretary of State Hobbs as the next choice.
- e. The ASRC Coalition is meeting weekly to plan for the challenge that will come related to our pension.
- f. The National Public Pension grant has come in at \$35,000.
- g. The recent bills dropped by Finchem appear to be retribution for the Redford movement.
- h. Two (PUHSD) teachers were fined due to using District resources for disseminating Invest in Ed information.
- i. Sign-up to receive emails from the Alliance.
- j. Pam Simon has nominated Gabby Giffords for the NEA HCR MLK award.
- k. AEA-Retired still needs a volunteer to be the editor of the Conduit.
- l. Currently, 12.5% of AEA-Retired members are not being reached. Nick Malonas will be hired to work out the kinks in the system to eliminate this problem.
- m. The Budget Meeting is Jan. 22. Please get in your budget requests.
- n. Get your nominations in for Delegate Assembly and AEA-Retired Board.

Vice-President Hydrick-talked about the "Request to Speak" at the legislature and offered to sign up all of those who have not yet registered.

Liaison Sleeper-Not in attendance

AEA Alternate Director Messing-There has been no meeting since our December meeting. Messing and Smith marched in the Fiesta Bowl Parade and report that we were well received.

Secretary K. Freed-Distributed forms indicating how much each individual donated to the Kinnaman Fund via the monthly raffle

10. ASRS

Chair Ramos referenced the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and noted that their #1 Goal is to change the ASRS pension fund from a defined benefit to a defined contribution, though the Chamber claims that their #1 goal is water. There will be an attempt to force a hybrid plan on us that may incorporate a 401K and/or defined benefit/defined contribution. All would increase the risk to employees. He noted that Paul Mattson would be meeting with the Chamber.

11. Political Action

Chair Messing stated that we need to have consistent interaction with our legislators. The House being a 31-29 split may lead to more negotiations around issues. She asked that we attend the lobby days and that we email our legislators to share that we are looking forward to seeing them.

She shared that voucher bills will be coming back and that the Outlaw Dirty Money campaign will start in January.

The recent Advocacy Trainings were well attended and highly successful.
(See printed report for more information.)

12. Chapter Chair Reports

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer)-The meeting is held at Biscuits Café, 19420 N. 59th Ave., Glendale. Sommer encouraged advocacy involvement at the Capitol this year. **The next meeting is Thursday February 7, 2019** at 10:00a.m.

Mesa (Hydrick)-The Next meeting is **Jan. 9, 2019** at 63 East Main Street, Mesa, on the 8th floor of the MPS Building, 10:45, with lunch at 11:00. The topic will be “Bunny Slippers Activism,” when members will be registered on the Arizona State Legislature Request to Speak and added to Civic Engagement Beyond Voting. Morgan Dick, a lawyer with the Arizona Advocacy Network, will review bills being introduced by the legislature.

Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Myers/Riley)-The next meeting will be on **Jan. 21** at the Denny’s Restaurant on Mayo Blvd and Scottsdale Rd. at 11:00 a.m. with the topic being educational funding. The speaker from Justa Center, an organization that helps the homeless, who presented at the Nov. meeting was quite informative. All are welcome.

Kyrene/Tempe/Chandler (Shamah)-The next meeting will be on **Feb. 5** at Native Grill and Wings, 5030 Ray Rd. #5 from 4:30 to 6:30. . The topic will be “Bunny Slippers Activism,” when members will be registered on the Arizona State Legislature Request to Speak and added to Civic Engagement Beyond Voting. Morgan Dick, a lawyer with the Arizona Advocacy Network, will review bills being introduced by the legislature.

Active, as well as retired members are invited to attend.

Tucson (Matteson)-The Next meeting is **Jan 15**, at the Southern Region Office at 10:00 a.m. when we will be hearing from Merrill Eisenberg, the anti “Dirty Money” southern Arizona coordinator. She will be sharing that the fight isn’t over and that it will begin anew this month.

Phoenix (Smith)-The Phoenix chapter will meet at Beatitudes at 1610 W. Glendale, in Elaine's Dining Room on **Jan. 15th at 10:30**. Lunch is \$10 including the tip. Smith is reaching out to her members asking them to attend the opening of the legislature and Lobby Day.

Southeast Arizona (Rosen)-The **next meeting will be on January 17, 2019**, at the Peacock Restaurant in Sierra Vista. A sub-committee of the group will be meeting on the 14th, thus eliminating the necessity of driving at night.

Yavapai (Johan)-At Yavapai chapter's Nov. 15th, Steve Ramos spoke about the ASRS. The **Next meeting is Jan. 10** at Augie's in Prescott.

Flagstaff (Roach)-The chapter meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month, with the **next meeting on Feb 5 at 10:00**, in the Flagstaff Federated Church basement room. The January meeting was not held due to it being New Year's Day. The December meeting included conversation about the election results, how to help the FEA with membership recruitment, the FUSD ballot measures passage and the CCC measures failure. Sue Strobel updated the chapter on gun violence.

13. Alliances and Coalitions

A. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans-Hydrick shared that all of us are members of the Alliance as members of AEA-Retired.

B. Arizona Interfaith Network-L. Wittig shared a written statistical report about the Nov. election, and a flier about building leadership. He also noted that people from Invest in Ed are meeting with legislators to educate them about school finance.

C. Arizona School Counselors-Cicero shared that the counselors have drafted a Ratio Reduction Bill that will be sponsored by Sen. Bowie, and that the education community is behind this bill

14. Intergenerational Mentoring (Rumery)

Rumery shared that they are expanding into the Higley area and will meet on Jan. 31 to get the program started. If you live in the area and want to be a mentor please contact her.

15. M.O.R.E.

Messing shared the M.O.R.E. plans include Mixers in Tucson on Feb. 20 at the YWCA from 10-3 and at AEA headquarters on Feb. 21 from 10-3. There has been a new M.O.A. with NEA that will bring an additional \$4,200 grant to AEA-Retired. Some of that money will be used to update our membership lists. Calls will start going out on Jan. 25, coordinated by Austin and Calhoun.

16. Fundraising

M. Freed announced that Paula Mueller will be making and donating a quilt or the AEA-Retire Fundraiser. Next month she will bring raffle tickets to purchase and distribute.

17. Half-back Raffle of \$36 was won by Johan.

18 Adjournment at 1:32. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 2019.

****Notes ****

A lunch break of 15 minutes was taken and a working lunch followed.

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