

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of January 13, 2015

1. Call to Order at 10:06 by President Horwin

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Suzan Austin, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, Linda Somo, John Campbell, Judy Moy, Shirley Boswell, Ed Bufford, Marilyn Freed, Michael Gordy, Luci Messing, Carmen Peters, Nancy Putman, Kathy Ramage-White, Sally Rosen, Susie Sommer, Jean Stephenson. Chapter Chairs; Aurora Aber, Ted Coleman, Janie Hydrick, Barbara Joseph, Gary Mehok, Ellen Shamah. ASRS Chair; Steve Ramos. Members; Connie Wittig, Brenda Pierce, Frank Sacco, Juan Ziniga, Jan Nichols, Kris Koziol, Michele Smith, Anna Cicero. Staff; none

2. Approval of Agenda with flexibility (Ramage-White/Somo) **Approved**
3. Approval of the minutes of November 11. (K. Freed/Ramage-White) **Approved**

4. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$77,339
Liabilities	\$17,271
Equity	\$60,060

Approval of the report and file for audit (Somo/Campbell) **Approved**

(See written report for more information.)

Linder made the Board aware of his concern around the Board lodging and Board meetings lines. A discussion of virtual meetings and other options ensued as potential cost savings measures.

5. Membership Chair Boswell shared most recent membership data. Currently we have 2168 members with 160 using dues deduct. (See printed report for more information.)

We have added 15 new honorary members. She added that as these numbers increase, our budget is impacted because AEA-Retired pays their dues: up to \$90/year for each. Boswell spoke about the Attorney Referral Program and shared a flier.

6. Membership Outreach chairs, Putman and Moy shared and explained the lists they would be giving to those who signed up to liaison locals throughout the state. The lists provided information about former AEA members who had yet to join Arizona Education Association-Retired.

Putman and Moy invited Board members to join the Outreach committee meeting which would be held immediately after the Board meeting.

7. Officers' Reports

President Horwin-The President presented the Board with a well-received, and appreciated, written report. She then highlighted several areas while sharing additional information.

Shared that the Great Team concept not an AEA-Retired issue and if members chose to go forward, that they do so as individuals. AEA, AEA-Retired and AZ Wins Coalition had a “No CrAZy” rally on January 12, with 20 AEA-Retired members in attendance.

Indicated that the results from the September 2014 Committee Day small group report-outs indicate members want the organization to focus on Membership, Communication, and Political Action.

We were informed that AEA Days at the State Capitol are limited to 60 attendees, with no more than 5 from a given local, due to the size of the room available to us. Jennifer Loredo will facilitate AEA-Retired day at the legislature if at least 20 members want to attend.

The DACA/DAPA training at headquarters is at capacity. However, there is still room available to attend the training at the Southern Region office on January 24. Julie asked that the board members forward the invitation to their local chapter members and colleagues.

A lengthy discussion took place relative to local elections and the importance of school board elections. We must begin to look for appropriate candidates to fill the 400-600 vacant school board seats in the 2016 election. Julie asked that board members forward the Candidate Training flier to chapter members and colleagues.

Past NEA President Van Roekel created a new NEA award at the 2014 NEA RA. The first NEA Social Justice Activist Award will be presented at the 2015 RA. Nominations are due by March 30, 2015.

Vice-President Austin-no report

Liaison Aicone-not able to attend

AEA Director Moy-no report

NEA Director Campbell-no report.

8. ASRS

Though Chairperson Ramos indicated that he had no report, he asked us to remain vigilant as he is certain that there will be many issues that will impact retirement that we will need to attend to.

9. Elections

Chairperson Ramage-White provided a written report. Currently there are 35 people seeking to be delegates to the AEA Delegate Assembly, 1 seeking the vice-presidency and 5 individuals seeking to become At-Large Board members.

10. Chapter Chair Reports

Southeast Arizona (Rosen) Twenty-three members met on Friday, January 9, at

Ricardo's Restaurant in Hereford. There was discussion of health and dental insurance. The next meeting will be in March.

Greater Phoenix (Joseph) They will meet next on 1/27 with David Ramirez, Sky Harbor Information Director, as the speaker, at Beatitudes.

Greater Tucson (Aber) reported that they met on 12/16 and discussed the GREAT Team Caucus situation and upcoming AEA-R elections. They will meet at the TEA office on 1/20

East Valley/Mesa (Hydrick) The next meeting is 1/14 with Tory Anderson on Common Sense Economics. Meetings are at 63 E. Main St. in Mesa.

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer) Next meeting will be 2/5 at 45th Ave. and Bell Rd. with Janie Hydrick as the speaker.

Yavapai (Coleman) Met on January 10 at the IHOP with Cindy Daniels, Assistant Superintendent of Chino Valley USD as the speaker. The officers will next meet on 1/15 to discuss an April "Welcome to Retirement" gathering.

Northern Arizona/Reservation (Goodluck) Not in attendance

Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Austin) Next meeting is on 1/19 from 11am to 1pm for lunch at Denny's on 3315 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale. The speaker will be Steve Ramos. Everyone is welcome.

Kyrene (Shamah/Feldner) Chairpersons are developing a survey to determine when members want to meet. Meeting TBD.

11. Les Reynolds Award (Wittig)

Wittig asked Board members to make nominations for this award and indicated that nominees must be members, but being a member of the AEA-Retired Executive Board is not a requirement.

Wittig then shared her concerns around Tax Credits. This led to a lengthy discussion/debate.

12. Annual Meeting (Austin)

Vice-President Austin shared the proposed schedule for our AEA-Retired Annual Meeting. The schedule, as outlined, mirrors what has been done in the past. It was announced that Antonio Galindo, NEA Member Benefits, will present. Other suggestions for speakers include; Tory Anderson, Jennifer Loreda and Paul Matson. We were asked we think of a theme for the meeting. A suggestion made is "Stretch Your Retirement Budget."

13. Pre-Retirement Presentations (Somo)

There are currently 3 Pre-Retirement workshops planned. They are Feb. 5, at Headquarters, Feb. 11, at the Southern Region office and Feb. 19, at Headquarters. Steve Ramos is in the process of updating the ppt and will email it to the presenters.

14. Political Action & Election Updates (Hydrick/Messing)

The chairs shared that GREAT creates legislative buddies who speak/meet on a weekly basis. On Wednesday (1/14) members will meet with legislators at their offices. They also thanked the Tucson chapter for providing the money to sponsor a legislative

reception in Tucson. This reception will take place on Jan. 31, at the YWCA. All are welcome to attend.

15. Alliances and Coalitions

Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans (Campbell)

Informed the Board that we have paid our dues for the coming year. Horwin is assisting Tory Anderson, Executive Director, on a presentation for AEA-Retired Annual Meeting so that it will fit our time constraints. Shared that we were the largest group participating at the 1/12 lobbying rally.

Arizona Wins Coalition (Horwin)

A conversation is taking place as to AEA-Retired's role and responsibilities within the Coalition. A major funder of the Coalition is the Arizona Education Association.

16. Half-back Raffle of \$29 was won by Stephenson.

17. Adjournment at 1:06. Next meeting is February 10 at 10:00AM at headquarters.

**Notes **

Lunch was enjoyed after adjournment.

Membership Outreach and Elections committees met after lunch.