

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of September 12, 2017

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

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Suzan Austin, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, Linda Somo, Shirley Boswell, Marilyn Calhoun, Anna Cicero, Marilyn Freed, Barbara Matteson, Gary Mehok, Luci Messing, Ann Myers, Nancy Putman, Steven Ramos, Tricia Roach, Michele Smith, Susie Sommer, Juan Zuniga. **Chapter Chairs**; Rob Johan, Nancy Riley, Sally Rosen. **Members**; Aurora Aber, John Campbell, Ellie Feldner, Norma Jimenez, Linda Thieken, Maria Vinales, Jan Nichols, Jeanne Erickson, Kathy Ramage-White, Debbie Crass. **Staff**; Margaret Sleeper. **Guests**; Amber Gould

A moment of silence was taken in respect for those of our members who have passed since our last meeting. John Campbell offered thanks for the funds raised by the Board.

2. Approval of Agenda, with flexibility (Mehok/M. Freed) **Approved**
3. Approval of the minutes of April, 2017 (Somo/Zuniga) **Approved**

4. Membership Processing Chair Boswell shared the most recent membership data. Currently we have 2181 members with 1612 using dues deduct. We have 31 new members this year. (See printed report for more information.)

5. Membership Outreach was part of the committee day agenda relative to membership.

6. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$83,398
Liabilities	\$22,458
Equity	\$60,939

(See written report for more information.)

Linder shared information about the specific lines of the budget. He reported that ASRS was not notified of the change in dues amount and therefore our first collection of the new amount will take place in October. Also, AEA-R will be paying a \$31 month charge for QuickBooks. He shared the calculated Budget Balance Forward Amount.

(See written report for more information.)

Move that the report be accepted and filed for audit. (Austin/Calhoun)

Passed

7. New Business Item-Moved that AEA-Retired contribute \$500 to E-Swag to support the "Garage Sale" for teachers in their first 5 years. The money to be taken from our AEA Foundation Intergenerational Mentoring account. (Putman/Smith)

Passed

8. Officers' Report

President Horwin-Shared that SOS was parent driven. This campaign is to eliminate the recent legislation to expand vouchers.

AZMerit scores have a strong correlation with socio-economics.

Horwin asked the Board to consider options for dates of 2018 committee day meetings. This is to be discussed at a future meeting.

The Board was informed that there was \$160,000 allocated for grants nationwide by NEA-Retired. Of that sum, last year AEA-Retired was given over \$8000. Julie has written a grant for this year including the "robo calls" for chapters & Suzan Austin wrote another MORE grant. This year, Julie negotiated a second Memorandum of Understanding or over \$50,000 to increase membership of both Active and Retired members.

Our President introduced Arizona NEA Director Amber Gould.

Vice-President Austin-presented a written report on the NEA-Retired Annual meeting and shared that President Horwin was re-elected to NEA-Retired Executive Council. Also, AEA-Retired made the largest contribution to the Kinnaman Fund.

Austin also provided a written report on the NEA Representative Assembly. The convention was held in Boston, with 7,191 delegates in attendance. The AEA delegation raised over \$18,000 and donated more per delegate than the New Jersey delegation.

A wrap up of the AEA-Retired Annual meeting was provided. There were 108 people in attendance of which 83 represented the AEA-Retired at the Delegate Assembly.

The Vice-President reported on the M.O.R.E. grant and of the upcoming activities.

(See written reports for additional information.)

Liaison Sleeper-reported that AEA membership is up by 408 members. We were forewarned that there will probably be a small drop due to credit card changes.

Sleeper shared the situation with Scottsdale EA and the necessity for locals to file with the IRS. Future trainings are being planned to eliminate any oversights.

Though the AEA is still running a deficit budget, the picture is much brighter with an increase in income of \$70,000. Additionally, NEA is being financially supportive.

AEA Director Barlow-Alternate Director Messing will be in attendance to represent AEA-Retired as Barlow is unable to attend.

(A written report by Barlow is included in the packet.)

AEA Fund Council Representative Somo-No new information at this time.

Secretary K. Freed-Asked if we should do an additional raffle on Committee Day. A thumbs up voted indicated that we should.

9. ASRS

Ramos reported that due to media attention, the Governor has now made appointments to the Board such that it is only one member short. Currently the Fund has \$38B and has an estimated return on investment of 13.9%.

The ASRS Board will be voting on pre-funding the PBI, though there is no PBI in the foreseeable future. Also a vote will be held to lower the assumed rate of return to 7.75% or 7.5%. This will affect those contributing currently as it will cause the contribution rate to increase slightly.

(See written report Ramos included in the packet.)

10. Fundraising

The committee will meet during the lunch break.

12. Chapter Chair Reports

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer)-The meeting dates have been set for the West Valley Chapter. The chapter will meet Oct.5, Dec.1, Feb.1 and April 5 during school year 2017-18. All meetings are held at Iron Works Restaurant, 17233 N. 45th Ave., Glendale at 4:00 p.m. **The next meeting is Thursday October 5, 2017.**

Mesa (Hydrick/Somo)-The **Next meeting is Sept. 20** at 63 East Main Street, Mesa, on the 8th floor of the MPS Building, 10:45, where the discussion will be with Stephanie Parra, AEA's Government Relations Director. Additionally, Stephanie serves on the PUHSD Governing Board. Join us for conversation, information, food and raffles.

Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Myers/Riley)-The **next meeting will be on October 16** at the Denny's Restaurant on Mayo Blvd and Scottsdale Rd. At this first meeting of the year we will be accepting donations to the Kinnaman Fund as well as books/magazines for the Lodestar Learning Center.

Kyrene/Tempe/Chandler-The chapter will no longer be functioning as the chair is moving and no one is currently willing to take a leadership position. Those who interested are encouraged to attend the East Valley Chapter in Mesa.

Tucson (Pickens/Matteson)-The first meeting of the year was Aug. 15. This was an abbreviated meeting as many of the attendees were attending the Grijalva luncheon sponsored by the Alliance. The **Next meeting is September 19**, at the Southern Region office at 10:00a.m..

Phoenix (Smith)-The Phoenix chapter will meet at Beatitudes at 1610 W. Glendale, on the third Tuesday of alternate months. The first meeting of the year is **Sept. 19 at 10:30**. At the last meeting, in May, the speaker was Representative Mark Cardenas from LD 19.

Southeast Arizona (Rosen)-The chapter met on Sept. 6 at La Casita Restaurant. A presentation of the history of the building that houses the restaurant was conducted. The building dates back to 1937. Sierra Vista Historical Society booklets were presented that detailed other historical sites in the area. Sixteen members were present. The **next meeting is yet to be determined.**

Yavapai (Johan)-The Yavapai chapter's **next meeting will be Friday, Sept. 15** at the Prescott Family Diner in Prescott. Agenda items include; updates from the Sept. AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting, the AEA Fund Council Meeting, and identifying

appropriate speakers for future meetings. In addressing the NEA Organizing Grant, the chairperson has contacted 75 members by email, and 15 by telephone. Ten of those contacted have responded that they will attend the September meeting. There will be additional phone calls for future meetings to reach out to other members.

Flagstaff (Roach)-The chapter meeting is held on the first Tuesday of the month, with the **next meeting on Oct. 3 at 10:00**. At the Sept. 5 meeting the members discussed the parking situation, interpretation of survey results, an NEA-Retired organizing visit to Flagstaff and gun safety. Updates on specific areas were provided and all were encouraged to continue becoming an expert on a specific issues. Areas included; Flake's re-election and his opponents, ASRS pension threats, the SOS initiative campaign, the lawsuit to fully fund education in Arizona, and Ducey's performance pay plan.

13. Alliances and Coalitions

A. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans-Somo discussed the upcoming Alliance Convention and encouraged AEA-Retired members to seek office.

(See written report Somo included in the packet.)

B. Arizona Interfaith Network-L. Wittig not in attendance.

C. Arizona School Counselors-Cicero continues to liaison the AEA-Retired with the counselors organizations. She indicated that President Horwin would be forwarding a newsletter form the organization.

14. Intergenerational Mentoring

Vinares reported that she will be starting a mentoring program at ASU in January. The goal is to try to enhance and strengthen the student teacher experience. Training for the mentors will take place on Nov. 1 and 2 with Marcy Hutchinson assisting.

15. Half-back Raffle of \$28 was won by Putman.

16. Adjournment at 12:21. The next meeting is Tuesday, November 10, 2017.

****Notes ****

Lunch was taken following the conclusion of the meeting and was followed by committee day meetings.

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

Yup...that's 100%!! Many thanks!