



**AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting Tuesday April 12, 2022**

**Held at AEA Headquarters – 345 E. Palm Ln., Phoenix, AZ**

**at 10:00 a.m. 4/12/22**

**Attendees:** Anna Cicero, Ken Freed , Janice Dwosh, Steve Linder, Danny Barlow, Shirley Boswell, Marilyn Calhoun, Jeanne Erickson, Marilyn Freed, Julie Horwin , Marshall Militano, Nancy Putman, Linda Somo, Gary Mehok, Susie Sommer, Norma Jimenez, Maria Leyva, Sharin Manes, Michele Smith, Carmen Peters, Suzan Austin, Steve Ramos, Nancy Riley, Deb Larned, Luci Messing , Barb Matteson

Absences excused: **Ellie Feldner, Julie Cozad , Sandy Warns, Peter Coston, Janie Hydrick, Marilyn Kinnie, Ellie Perez-Pawlowski**

**1. Call to Order: President Anna Cicero (Welcome and introductions)**

**Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.**

**Guests: Sen . Martin Quezada - running for office AZ state treasurer (10 yrs. in legislature)**

Anna welcomed the board and other members to the meeting. She also asked for respectful listening and participation during the meeting. Anna made a land acknowledgement for our AZ native people.

**2. Approval of Agenda for Tuesday April 12, 2022 Janice Dwosh** motion by Ken Freed , seconded by Gary Mehok. Motion for the approval of the agenda was approved with flexibility .

**3. Approval of Minutes from March 8, 2022 – Janice Dwosh.** motion by Ken Freed , seconded by Gary Mehok . Minutes from the March 2022 executive board meeting stand as approved.

**4. Financials – Steven Linder** Financials moved to be accepted and to be submitted for audit by Marilyn Freed seconded by Marilyn Calhoun . Motion was accepted for financials as submitted and ready for audit . See email for details of the financial reports. Busy month in March - (NEA Leadership Summit and NEA Retired organizing meeting). Steve discussed the need to determine the money to be given for the J. Kinnaman fund at the NEA Retired meeting (at the RA). Julie Horwin moved to send \$300 to this year’s annual meeting, seconded by Marilyn Freed. Friendly amendment by Nancy Putman to increase to \$500. Motion passed.

## 5. Officers' Reports:

**Anna Cicero - President :** Anna discussed the March NEA Leadership Summit– Attendees: Julie Horwin, Luci Messing, Anna Cicero, Janice Dwosh, Marshall Militano, Norma Jimenez. NEA Retired organizing conference – Attendees – Anna, Marshall, Luci, Barb M. and Julie Horwin .

Anna handed out documents for AEA-Retired committees for next year. Please let her know if you need to change your committees for the upcoming year (2022/23). Deadline April 26th to Janice and Anna for all reports for the upcoming Annual meeting.

**Ken Freed-- Vice President: AEA Board representative :** Ken Freed will continue as chairman of AEA-Retired Documents committee next year. Fund council endorsed Martin Quezada (allocated \$2,500 to his campaign). He reviewed the upcoming AEA fund council and AEA Board meeting information. The statewide team will be interviewing candidates , so far no AEA-Retired members are on the committee. Vouchers are proposed by the Republican party members in AZ , in exchange for the education budget increases. Still to be determined. Randy Parraz working to get budget money for a new AEA manager to recruit members into AEA . Looking for grants and other funding sources.

**Janice Dwosh- Secretary --** The AEA-Retired book discussion group will be meeting on April 25th to discuss an exceptional social justice book Please contact Ann Myers or Janice Dwosh if interested in our virtual book discussions. In April we will discuss Beautiful Country (an Asian American immigrant's true story). Janice attended the NEA Leadership Summit in Las Vegas, and focused on Racial/Social Justice as well as Social Emotional Learning. It's not just for students (adults need it too). She also recently attended L4JS training on Cultural Appropriation vs Cultural Appreciation and discussed it with the board. She will be attending the NEA Leaders For Just Schools summer training in Washington DC in late July .

The Call for Agenda and documents will go out next week on Wed. April 20th . Please make sure all Annual meeting reports are sent to Anna and Janice by Tues. April 26th at 5 p.m. in a PDF format for printing and sharing. This is important so that packets can be printed on April 28-29th and collated into packets on May 2nd. Thanks so much!

**Julie Horwin -- Past President /NEA Director -** National Alliance for Retired Americans - May 18th rally in Washington DC, to repeal GTO /WEP. 14% increase for Soc. Security costs - bills in Congress currently being negotiated .

NEA raised \$16, 283 for NEA PAC, total collected including live auctions is \$21,283 for NEA auctions in Baltimore.

**6. New Business: none was presented this month.**

## **7. Committee reports:**

**Membership -- Shirley B. , Nancy P. -** Membership report: 2111 members , 69 Emeritus members (over 90 years old) - no longer having to pay dues if paid NEA lifetime dues. Plan to encourage members who pay by check to switch to EFT or payroll deduction with ASRS.

### **Membership outreach -- Nancy P. and Michele S.--**

Janice Dwosh (as the adopt-a-local liaison) will be attending the PVEA retirement celebration in May and handing out gift cards and membership forms. Deb Larned will go to Marana, Suzan A. will go to Phx Union celebration. A few AEA board members are retiring soon, too. Need board members to help with the AEA-DA caucus meetings. Marshall discussed the Baltimore NEA membership meeting. We need to continue to recruit members ! It's critical for our continued success.

**Political Action - Luci M. -** Check political updates report for more info. No bills are dead until Sine Die (end of legislative session). Still many bills are alive and need to be followed. Voucher expansion is in the works. Stay involved! Watch out for striker bills. Use ARSC and CEBV to get action alerts.

**Communications Committee --** Maria Leyva - tech bits: Signal (texting app) free and great way to communicate.

**May 20th deadline for the next Conduit., then Aug. 26th, and Nov. 28th for future Conduit issues - Jan Nichols**

### **Special committees/Ad Hoc -**

**Ad Hoc (strategic plan)- Anna --** currently in progress. We will be continuing to work on this for the Spring and Summer.

**Fundraising-- Marilyn Freed -** quilt is done for this coming AEA-DA. There will be electronic ticket sales this year for the quilt on the AEA -Retired website . Two quilts are being made with the materials purchased (one for this year and next year). See Marilyn Freed if you want to buy tickets. Please return tickets and money to Marilyn ASAP! Pay online on our AEA-Retired website link. Need volunteers to assist with the quilt booth.

**ASRS--Liaison Steve Ramos--** Healthcare - ASRS is still looking at new options for future years . Rate of Return will be looked at after June. Pension brochures as well as website info are helpful for new and future retirees.

**MORE -- Linda Somo -** MORE gathering was held in person on April 6th, 2022 in Phoenix. (IBEW meeting hall). Speakers were - Joe Rubio (VIP - keynote speaker), Brendan Foland - legislative update, Steve Ramos- ASRS updates, Susie Sommer - chapter information. Well attended event of 62 people. Great survey of 18+ attendees! Positive feedback.

**Annual Meeting -- Norma Jimenez -**May 6-7th . Please sign up to assist on Friday and Saturday. Confirm with Norma. Covid protocols by AEA - mask except when eating, drinking or speaking at microphone. Hotel info-- approximately \$150 for the room . Reimbursed for ½ of room for single occupancy. Scottsdale Resort-- box lunches on Sat. possibly.

**Awards-- Nancy Putman --** The Les Reynolds Senior Service award winner this year will be Ken Freed! Congrats for his many valuable years of service!

**Budget committee -- Steve Linder --** done for the year.

**Documents -- Ken Freed-** done for this year.

**Audit -- Carmen P.--** in Sept. we will conduct the entire audit for the year. (due to Covid)

**Elections – Steve Linder**

There are many positions open in the next election: AEA Retired Secretary and AEA Director (first terms) as well as six open at large board directors: These terms will be up at the next election:

**Nancy Putman , Julie Cozad, Marshall Militano , Barbara Matteson , Ellie Feldner , Norma Jimenez**

Nominations for delegates to the AEA-DA and for officers/exec board members have closed as of 2/23/22,

**Update on AEA-Retired delegates to AEA DA –** 66 delegates have put in their nomination forms and are certified as delegates to the DA..

**At large board members running for office :** Marshall Militano, Norma Jimenez, Nancy Putman, Barbara Matteson, Janice Dwosh, Danny Barlow, Deb Larned, Peter Coston, Rosario Dickerson. Maria Leyva and Kathy Ramage-White are running for Secretary

Luci is running for the AEA-Retired Director to replace Ken on the AEA-Board . His term is up this Spring. Ken is running for alternate director.

**8. Chapter Chairs --Susie Sommer** - meetings on Zoom , assistant is now Sandy Warns & Steve Ramos to help out with Zoom.

**West Valley --** S. Sommer - in person and on Zoom. Done online and in person (two separate times)

**Ellen S.-- Kyrene** meeting in person

**Mesa** - meeting on Zoom - Lela Alston will be speaking in April.

**Nancy R.- PV/Scottsdale** -meeting on Zoom,

**Danny B.-- Interstate/ N. AZ** -- meet on Zoom -

**Sally Rosen-**unable to attend today's meeting

**Peter C. -Southern Tucson area** - not in attendance , meet in hybrid modes.

**Deb Larned – NW Tucson chapter** - new chapter chair. Work on progress.

**Marilyn Kinnie** - Goodyear, Buckeye, Litchfield, Surprise area. (Southwest Valley) not in attendance today.

**9. Alliances and coalitions :**

**AARA-- AZ Alliance of Retired Americans -- Linda Somo** - no other updates.

**ARSC-- AZ Retirement Security Coalition -- Steve Ramos -- updated us earlier.**

**AIN/VIP Valley interfaith project/ AZ interfaith network - PCIC** - article from Frank Ratey opposes flat tax.

**Kinnaman Fund raffle – \$68** was donated today. \$ 34 was won by Shirley Boswell. \$ 34 was put into the Scholarship fund.

**10. Adjournment of meeting by Pres. Anna Cicero -- Meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.**

**Committee meetings to follow:**

**Membership committee - meeting today**

**Annual meeting May 6th-7th**

**AEA Delegate Assembly May 6-7th**

**Call for agenda and documents Wed. April 20th**

**Documents due back by evening of Tues. April 26th (including end of year committee reports)**

sent for copying on Thurs. April 28th. Collating packets will be done on Mon. May 2nd.

Respectfully submitted by Janice Dwosh AEA-Retired Secretary April 12, 2022

