

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting  
Minutes of November 10, 2015

1. Call to Order at 10:14 by President Horwin

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Suzan Austin, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, Linda Somo, John Campbell, Judy Moy, Danny Barlow, Shirley Boswell, Anna Cicero, Marilyn Freed, Liz Hendrickson, Carmen Peters, Nancy Putman, Kathy Ramage-White, Steven Ramos, Sally Rosen, Susie Sommer, Jean Stephenson, Larry Wittig, Juan Zuniga. Chapter Chairs; Ted Coleman, Ellie Feldner, Ellen Shamah, Members; Barbara Matteson, Connie Wittig, Aurora Aber, Kathy Campbell, Michael Gordy, Brenda Pierce, Cindy Michels, Gary Mehok, Staff; Mark Simon, Todd Crenshaw, Margaret Sleeper, Doug Kilgore.

**NOTE:** Prior to the Approval of the Agenda, President Horwin asked everyone to take part in the Board/Chapter Chair picture.

2. Approval of Agenda, as amended, with flexibility (Moy/Zuniga) **Approved**
3. Approval of the minutes of October 13, 2015 (Campbell/Ramage-White) **Approved**
4. Membership Chair Boswell shared most recent membership data. Currently we have increased to 2161 members with 1606 using dues deduct. We have 79 new members. (See printed report for more information.)

**\*\*During this time we were introduced by Executive Director Mark Simon, to Margaret Sleeper, who will replace Mike Aicone as the Finance Manager, and will be our AEA Liaison.**

5. Membership Outreach chairs, Putman/Moy shared that they have the lists of former "Actives," by local who are not yet members, and will be sharing it with their committee. They are considering sending a different letter to long-retired people who have not joined. The Board reported out on their successes. A discussion took place, with clarity provided by Crenshaw, about maintenance of membership in order to maintain your member benefits.
6. New Business Item-None
7. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$71,557
Liabilities	\$16,587
Equity	\$54,969

(See written report for more information.)

Move Acceptance and file for audit. (Ramage-White/Somo) **Approved**

Treasurer Linder shared his concerns about the Executive Board Lodging and postage lines, as well as reporting that we were again overcharged for the printing of the Conduit. A discussion was held relative to the practice of Pima College charging a fee for AEA-Retired workshops to non-members while not reimbursing our costs to conduct the workshop.\*\*\*A New Business item will be brought by Somo in December to add clarity.

8. Officers' Reports

**President Horwin** shared information about the NEA Organizing Conference that will be held in San Diego, March 22 and 23. In a commitment to broaden leadership, AEA-R will fully fund Roach and Smith. Neither have previously attended this conference. The cost (\$90 registration, \$159 room, \$14 resort fee, \$29 parking fee) to attend this conference is quite high and individuals will, of necessity, be paying some of it, though there is \$4,700 remaining in that line of the budget. If you choose to attend, using these funds provided by members' dues, it will be your responsibility to attend the special track for states with low members and then to follow up by helping to help design a plan to get AEA-Retired out of the 2% market share doldrums.

The President shared her concern about Board members not adhering to the email policy of AEA-Retired. We were reminded to blind copy **all** correspondence.

**Vice-President Austin**-Thanked those who stepped up to cover for her in her absence last month.

The first Annual Meeting report was presented. We will be meeting in Scottsdale with a similar schedule as we have had in the past. The theme of the event will be election-related and the Keynote speaker will be Todd Crenshaw. We have been assured that we will again have a wonderful suite for our social activities.

The Valleywide Mixer was again a huge success with 37 people in attendance.

The Vice-President introduced Todd Crenshaw, an NEA Organizational Specialist, to talk about the M.O.R.E grant that we have been awarded from NEA-Retired. This is a 2 to 3 year project, to organize for power, in which we will be reaching out to NEA-Retired members who reside in Arizona and are members elsewhere, to attain their support in political arenas. Crenshaw shared a power point and indicated that he will be an AEA-Retired advocate. He has committed to seeking funds, above the grant, to assist us in this program.

**Liaison Sleeper**-indicated that she had been here a short time and had no report.

**AEA Director Moy**-Minutes from the AEA board meetings of 9/23, were distributed. Was queried as to her position on the Local Option AEA Board vote.

**NEA Director J. Campbell**-shared an NEA memo that asked members to watch a video of the Hillary Clinton endorsement interview.

**Secretary K. Freed**-had no report.

9. ASRS - Chairperson Ramos had no report.

10. Political Action and Election Update

Matteson provided an excellent written report and then highlighted a few of the items for our information.

Turnout in the most recent election continues to be low which means we need to concentrate on the 18-40 year olds, as 50+ represented 70% of those voting.

In Phoenix, 25 of 28 overrides were successful, while 2 of 4 succeeded in Tucson.

Remember to look to sign up for future political trainings, receptions and lobbying activities.

11. Chapter Chair Reports

**Southeast Arizona (Rosen)** The chapter met on Oct. 29, at the Sunset Grille in Sierra Vista. Twentety (20) members were in attendance including two first timers-Ken Leibner and Cheryl Lega, both of Sierra Vista. Multiple Districts were represented. They will next meet in January, with more information to follow.

**Greater Phoenix (Smith)** The chapter will meet next on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of Nov. (11/24), from 10:30-noon at The Beatitudes, 1610 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix. The speaker will be Steve Ramos.

**Tucson (Matteson)** Reported that they met on 10/20 and spoke about the Tucson elections. Reported the mayor and all of the council members, all democrats, were re-elected. They will meet again on 11/17 at the Tucson EA office.

**East Valley/Mesa (Somo)** The next meeting is 11/18 and the speaker will be Representative Eric Meyer. The annual Thanksgiving Lunch/Symposium will be on 11/24 with Stacy Morley as one of the speakers. Meetings are at 63 E. Main St. in Mesa.

**West Valley/Glendale (Sommer)** The next meeting will be on Dec. 3 with a speaker from E-swag. The meeting starts at 4:00 at the Ironworks Restaurant.

**Yavapai (Coleman)** The meeting on Oct. 24 was attended only by the officers so they continued to plan. The next meeting is yet to be determined.

**Northern Arizona/Reservation (Goodluck)** the next meeting will be announced.

**Scottsdale, Paradise Valley (Austin)** The next meeting will be 11/16, from 11:00a.m.-1:00p.m. for lunch at Denny's, 3315 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, with a presentation on the threat to ASRS. They continue to collect books and magazines for Lodestar along with donating money to the Jack Kinnaman Fund. Future meetings are 1/18, 3/21 and 5/16.

**Kyrene (Shamah/Feldner)** The next meeting will be 11/18, at Mimi's at Chandler Blvd. and the 101 with Steve Ramos and Linda Somo as the speakers.

**Flagstaff (Roach)** The meeting on Nov. 3 had an agenda that included mentoring, enhancing the profession, gun violence at NAU and the inflation funding lawsuit. They will meet again in December or January and talk about the threat to ASRS.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Thank you to Sally, Suzan, Susie, Michele and Tricia for providing written reports.

12. Alliances and Coalitions

a. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans (Campbell)

Included a written report and also shared that The Alliance is attempting to get TPP before groups and I having limited, if any success.

b. Arizona retirement Security Coalition (Horwin)

There is an attempt to eliminate ASRS as the default position for new hires which will permanently lock them into a 401 type program. Also, the Coalition has recently trained 40 people to make the presentation and have reached 1000 people so far.

13. Half-back Raffle of \$31 was won by Somer (**again.**)

14. Adjournment at 1:47. Next meeting is December 8 at headquarters.

**\*\*Notes \*\***Lunch was a 20 minute break, voted by the board and committees. The Membership Outreach, Political Action and Documents committees met after adjournment.