AEA-Retired Executive Board Minutes
Wednesday, February 3, 2010 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
AEA Headquarters

Present: Somo, Bing, Stephenson, Horwin, K. Campbell, J. Campbell, Aber, Austin, Freed, Linder, Mehok, Michels, Moy, Ramos, Rosin, Zuniga, Sommer
Absent: Aicone, Boswell, Craig-Wooten, Pierce, Swinford, Thieken

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Call to order	Pres. Linda Somo called meeting to order at 10:05 AM
2. Approval of Agenda	K. Freed/ S. Linder moved and 2nd to accept the agenda with flexibility. PASSED
3. Previous Minutes	K. Freed/ J.Moy moved and 2nd to accept minutes of December 15, 2009. PASSED
4. Financials	Treasurer Jean Stephenson led a discussion of January balance, assets, liabilities and equity. She showed current profit and loss from May 1, 2009 through Jan. 23, 2010. J. Horwin/K. Campbell moved and 2nd to accept the financials and file for audit. PASSED. Jean noted that there is a Budget Committee scheduled for tomorrow, Feb. 4, to recommend 2011 budget. Jean also announced that the Audit Committee (Judy Moy and Linda Thieken) will meet tomorrow, Feb. 4 to begin the audit of 2009-2010 year.
5. Old Business	J. Horwin/K. Campbell moved to adopt the new Email policy. Policy is attached to these notes. Some discussion for clarification. PASSED
6. New Business	New Business Tucson Chapter – Aurora Aber: lunch for AEA-Retired Exec. Brd. J. Horwin/F. Bing moved to except Tucson chapter and any other group traveling more than 150 miles to the meetings from hauling lunch potables 2 hours to Phoenix for the meeting. K. Campbell offered amendment to create a permanent "lunch committee" beginning in September, 2010. Amendment PASSED. A new Lunch Committee to be in charge of purchasing lunches for each executive board meeting will be formed for 2010-2011 year.
7. Officer Reports a. President – Linda Somo:	President Somo noted that AEA Committee Day is this Saturday, Feb. 6, and asked if anyone brought raffle/silent auction donations. She asked that others bring to the event on Saturday morning. The NEA Board of Directors will meet Feb. 12-13, with Congressional Lobby Day on the 11th. Some of the lobby topics include New Stimulus Bill for Jobs as it related to Education, and GPO-WEP. Linda Somo announced that Shirley Boswell has agreed to be the new AEA-Retired Membership Chair. Daina Swinford was noted as being excellent chair, and that she will help Shirley with the transition.

	Pres. Linda Somo thanked those who worked at the NEA Western Regional in Mesa. Cindy Michels, Judy Moy, Gary Mehok, Steve Ramos, Juan Zuniga, Frank Bing, Jean Stephenson. 9 AEA-Retired Executive Board members will attend NEA-Retired Regionals in Minneapolis. Judy Moy, Shirley Boswell, Jean Stephenson, Frank Bing, Gary Mehok, Juan Zuniga, Brenda Pierce, Julie Horwin, Linda Somo. Tuesday, March 2, 2010, is Read Across America Day. Packets to distribute are available in the back of the boardroom today. She asked that any retired members who participate email pictures, notes about day to Linda, Frank Bing. Aurora Aber announced that Tucson School District will hold its annual "Love of Reading Week" and she will be the Cat in the Hat for that district-wide event. Thursday, March 4 is AEA Day of Action throughout Arizona. She urged AEA-Retired leaders and chapter members to contact local Associations, find out what they are doing, and ask how they can assist in the efforts being made in that particular local. Chapter chairs are urged to get same information out to local chapter members. Frank Bing shared that he attended AZ Atty General Terry Goddard's Senior Anti-Crime University in Sun City West. He will include an article about what he learned in the next Conduit. He was also present at the Education Committee hearing for the Dues Deduct Bill. It was held. The room was filled with Coalition members who were ready to speak against the bill that would bar AEA members, and no other union, from having dues deducted from paychecks. He plans to have next issue of The Conduit out at the end of February. It will include elections information.
8. Standing Committee Chair Reports a. Annual Mtg b. Membership	Standing Committee Chair Reports a. Annual Meeting – Suzan Austin passed out a sign-up sheet for duties at the Annual Meeting on April 22 in Mesa. The registration fee is $30.00. Paul Mattson, Dir. Of ASRS, will be a guest speaker. There was discussion about possible themes for the meeting, and keynote speakers were suggested. Steve Ramos suggested that to fulfill an objective of recruiting AEA leaders who are soon-to-retire, that AEA-Retired members go to the caucuses of active locals and hand them forms with explanation of AEA-Retired. Involve all AEA-Retired members in this endeavor to reach all local school districts in attendance. Possibilities; attend their lunch or morning caucuses. Another suggestion he had, is to announce and inform about AEA-Retired at one of the sessions of the AEA Delegate Assembly. Also; have a table outside in the hallway that includes membership information. Sign up email addresses to receive the Conduit online and the e-newsletter.

	Create an "AEA-Retired Commercial" to flash up on the screen before and after AEA-Delegate sessions. Each suggestion was met with strong approval from participants at today's meeting.
c. Legislative	b. Membership – we have 1904 members which allows 3 delegates to NEA-RA. c. Legislative – Steve Linder announced the AEA-Retired Lobby Day scheduled for February 10, 2010. Lunch will be served to all who RSVP in the Democratic Senate Caucus Room at noon. Participants are urged to invite their legislators to the lunch, and to schedule an appointment to meet with them at some time during the day. He noted that due to the new laws which hobble Active members from advocating for AZ schools, that it is important this year for AEA-Retired members to "step up."
d. ASRS	d. ASRS – Steve Ramos reported on December 18th 2009 ASRS Board Meeting. As of December 18th the fund was $23,606,599,836. (About $24 billion). As of July 1, 2010 the new contribution rate will be 9.85 up from 9.40.
e. Fundraising	ASRS Senate Bills will now be heard in the Government Institutions Committee, chaired by Senator Tibshraeny. The current bills involve "plan changes" (House Bill 2066) and a new "return-to-work" (House Bill 2390) legislation. ASRS consists of two separate funds. Most of us are members of the "Plan", a defined **benefit** plan created by the legislature in 1971. However, 1,800 members remain part of the original retirement "System", a defined **contribution** plan created by the legislature in 1953. That legislation for the "System" provided that member benefits could be reduced if funding fell below 95%. By June 30, 2009 the "System" was only 77% funded. ASRS staff, having projected a reduction in funded status asked the Arizona Attorney General if Proposition 100 changes prohibiting a reduction in benefits also applied to members in the "System"? On December 18th, 2009 the ASRS Board voted to accept the Attorney General's formal legal opinion that the Arizona Constitution, Article 29 (1998 Prop 100), protects members of the ASRS fund known as the "System" from any reduction in members' monthly benefit checks. A second question asked, "Who would be liable for any shortfalls in monthly benefit payments caused by a decline in market value?" That question was answered by placing the responsibility for payments of "System" members retiring after July '81 on the ASRS fund known as the "Plan". Members who retired before July '81 will be the responsibility of the State of Arizona through legislative appropriation. Because this affects so few members, Steve noted that it is negligible cost to the "Plan" fund.

	e. Fundraising – Aurora asked for donations for the Silent Auction/Raffle for Feb. 6 Committee Day. Funds raised will benefit AZ IMPACT, the Intergenerational Mentoring Program. There will also be a "Quarterback Raffle."
9. Board Committee Reports	Board Committee Chair Reports a. Elections Committee – Judy Moy noted that there are 55 delegates to the AEA-Delegate Assembly April 23, 24, 2010. Because that is less than the number AEA-Retired is allowed, no vote will take place. There are 20 more slots available and those will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. There is one nomination for Secretary for AEA-Retired (nominations can be taken from the floor), and 5 nominations for the five at-large AEA-Retired Executive Board positions that are open. (Nominations can be taken from the floor.) b. Les Reynolds Award – Kathy Campbell announced that Marion Pickens has been chosen to receive the Service Award this year. b. Grant Committee Report - Linda Somo spoke about the Conference Call Committee Report (attached to these minutes) from Jan. 31, 2010. A new 2-year grant focused on Strategic Planning objectives and outcomes has been submitted to NEA-Retired. (A copy is included with these minutes.)
10. Chapter Chair Reports	AEA-Retired Chapter Chair Reports Susie Sommer (Glendale & West Phx Chapter) reported that Bob Aborne has created a website for their chapter which informs members and potential members of chapter meeting dates, events, and guests. They are proud to be the first chapter in the US to have such an informational website. Aurora Aber, (Tucson Chapter) reported that on Feb. 16, they will have Cheryl Cage, legislative candidate. They have established and passed written by-laws for their chapter. Marc Rosin (Phoenix Chapter) reported that members enjoyed hearing from Penny Kotterman; individual members donated to her candidacy. They are enjoying the site of their meetings; Metrotech. They had approximately 20 present at last meeting. Next meeting is March 25. Suzan Austin (PV/Scottsdale Chapter) reported that she has has 10 rsvps for the next meeting in February. Pres. Linda Somo will be the guest speaker. Steve Ramos (Mesa/East Valley Chapter) noted that they always have 20+ members in attendance at their meetings. Penny Kotterman will speak at next meeting, on March 10
11. Raffle	Raffle Drawing – Ken Freed. Jean Stephenson won the "Half-back' raffle which helps to fund the NEA-Retired Fund give-away.

12. Coalitions – AZ Alliance	John Campbell will attend the National Meeting later this month in Las Vegas. Barb Matteson is running for a National Board position. Their fabulous technofile, Joan Serviss has taken another full-time position, so they are in the process of looking for another person. John urged members to help him to get people to attend events that he forwards in emails. With more people at events comes a stronger impact.
13. Meeting Adjourn	Adjourn Meeting – Pres. Linda Somo adjourned the meeting at 12:45 PM. Next Meeting, Tuesday, March 9

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Horwin
AEA-Retired Secretary