



## AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting Tuesday April 14, 2020 minutes.

Held on Zoom (virtual meeting) 10:00 am

**Attendees:** Julie Horwin, Janie Hydrick, Janice Dwosh, Steve Linder, Ken Freed , Shirley Boswell, Marilyn Calhoun, Anna Cicero, Julie Cozad, Marilyn Freed, Barbara Matteson, Luci Messing, Cindy Michaels, Marshall Militano, Ann Myers, Carmen Peters, Nancy Putman, Steve Ramos, Linda Somo, Connie Wittig, Larry Wittig, Juan Zuniga, Sally Rosen, Jan Nichols, Gary Mehok, Howard Johnson , Nancy Riley, Susie Sommer, Suzan Austin , Rob Johan , Marion Pickens, Margaret Sleeper, Norma Jimenez, Ellen Shamah

Absences excused: Danny Barlow , Michele Smith

1. **Call to Order, Julie Horwin at 10:03 a.m**  
**Guests:** Ellie Feldner
2. **Approval of Agenda for Tuesday, April 14, 2020** motion by Ken Freed , Seconded by Linda Somo  
Motion approved with flexibility
3. **Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2020 and March 25, 2020 – Janice Dwosh.** motion by Ken Freed , seconded by Connie Wittig. Motion was approved.
4. **Financials – Steven Linder** Financials moved to be approved by Ken Freed , seconded by Juan Zuniga  
Motion approved. See attachments for details of the financials. AEA-Retired expense voucher forms can be emailed to anyone who needs the form (Julie will email it). Send it by mail with receipts to Steve Linder for reimbursement. Expenses will be lower at this point due to the lack of meetings in person (no AEA-Delegate assembly) at this time, and NEA -RA is in question. But we will need to have sufficient funding in case some events are rescheduled.
5. **Membership – Shirley Boswell.**  
AEA -Retired members total 2,150 as of last month on March 31st . Up 2 from the prior month. We have no recent membership updates since AEA offices were closed.
- 6a. **Membership Outreach –Nancy Putman, Shirley Boswell**  
No new members at this time. Still try to keep in contact with the adopt - a - locals for the end of year . Please ask to get a list of the retirees from the locals , and assist with the new teacher events in the fall. Gift cards are available for those events. Possibly send out letters to all active members 55 and older to encourage new members. Also we can possibly assist with visiting districts in the fall and meeting with members or potential members. More info to come in the fall.
- 6b. **Breakout room**— How can we engage our members during this time of social distancing? What does AEA-Retired need to do to support our chapter chairs to achieve this engagement?  
Discussion in small groups and ideas brought back to everyone. Ideas include working for candidates, asking members to sign up others to vote by mail by phone. Chapter chairs could call a few current members and also do check in with chapter members over the summer. Other ideas include doing Zoom meetings , text messaging, What’s up app, Facebook, Twitter, and emails to check up . Other suggestions include writing postcards to members in each chapter, personal notes etc. Everyone agreed that keeping in contact is critical.
7. **Officers’ Reports**  
**Julie Horwin – President :** annual meeting will be a Zoom meeting, The newest Conduit was redone to address Covid-19 , etc. and we will continue to support our members. Incentives are planned to get everyone to come to the annual meeting. Julie is also working to engage retirees/seniors to assist Mark Kelly, and is starting a business to recruit and train individuals to join the redistricting committee after the Census is completed. She is also working to get retirees to work on any campaigns to support education. (Senior tracking system) list hours, candidates, etc.

**Janie Hydrick -- Vice President:** Stay safe, stay healthy and stay connected! Connect with members at least monthly with specific items to do (preserve public education and protect our pension/retirement system). Zoom meetings would be great for local area chapters to engage members.

**AEA Board — Ken Freed and Luci Messing:** notes from AEA board of directors meeting from March 28th. NEA fund endorsement of Joe Biden. Still gathering signatures for the Invest in Ed initiative. Petitions can be mailed and can be notarized online. Want to be able to gather signatures online for the initiatives (lawsuit ongoing). Delegate Assembly will be held in two phases: May 15th --all voting will be done that day. TBD date will be face to face or Zoom type meeting for the remainder of the issues needed in the year. Please forward the list of our AEA-Retired delegates to AEA (Joe Thomas).

**Margaret Sleeper – AEA Liaison** — AEA building is closed at this time. Working from home at this time if possible. AEA Membership is fairly stable. “Join now” on AEA website (actives), building an organizing campaign around online membership, “Ask your union” Friday calls with Joe or officers. Trying to support ESP’s as well as certified educators. Town Halls for candidates, invest in ed phone bank campaign -- political action. Recently AEA has also decided that Summer institute has been cancelled.

**8. Political Action/Legislative Action –Luci Messing.** Conduit updates are this month’s report. AZ State Budget approved for 5% raise for the certified educators. Disparity amongst the districts for ESP raises. Still hopeful for Invest in Ed on the ballot if we can get enough signatures by July 2nd. Howard Johnson updated us that the two SRP progressive candidates won.

**9. New Business— Julie Horwin** Request to donate \$2,000 from AEA-Retired budget. to AZ Retirement Security Coalition. Motion by Julie Horwin, seconded by Linda Somo. This is for the 2020 commitment. Discussion to move money from the existing budget by Steve Linder. Motion passed. For the first meeting in the Fall AEA-Retired will take up the question to approve the additional funding for 2021. Not currently in next year’s budget.

**10. ASRS – Steve Ramos** : due to the economic downturn the results don’t look great for the ASRS investment balances, but ASRS has investments also in real estate, bonds and credit, so the status will be fine overall. The self insurance bill did not get through before the legislature closed up so far. Kristine Ellis will be on the ASRS health committee in the near future for the next health care plan. Stay vigilant for companies trying to sell investments (looking like ASRS) but not ASRS.

**11. Conduit -- Jan Nichols--** latest issue published April 4, 2020. Thanks everyone for their patience and rewriting their articles a number of times. Please let Jan know if you’re interested in writing an update, also chapter chairs please update their info monthly.

**12. Fundraising -- Marilyn Freed**—quilt raffle on hold at this time. TBD for the future.

**13. AEA Annual meeting -- Anna Cicero. Friday May 8th (virtual Zoom meeting 10-2:00 p.m. with breaks)**

There will be creativity with our drawings throughout the meeting (\$1,200 to engage our members) reports from committee chairs due by April 24th to Janice, Anna and Julie. Thanks to everyone for their support! Happy hours to practice for the annual meeting upcoming.

**14a. Leaders for Just Schools -- Janice Dwosh, Ann Myers, Julie Horwin --**

inequities with technology and learning during the current crisis. Check out the links to various articles:

<https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2020/04/01/will-learning-gaps-widen-as-schools-stay.html>

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-education/2020/03/23/coronavirus-outbreak-arizona-schools-digital-learning-covid-19-news-doug-ducey/2877884001/>

**14 b. Breakout**—How can we reach out to potential chapter members who are not actively involved in their local area chapters and haven’t attended meetings in the past? Discussion in small groups & ideas brought back to the group.

Ideas included -- getting updated membership lists by zip codes, (Chapter areas), letters to members, emails, postcards, personal phone calls, face to face meetings (in the future). Email any other ideas to Julie H.

## 15. Chapter Chairs Reports

**Susie Sommer - West Valley** — All chapter chairs should submit a summary for the annual report before the meeting on May 8th. Please submit it to Julie H. , Janice D. and Susie S. by April 24th. Will stay in contact with her chapter every few weeks. The next West Valley meeting is scheduled for Thurs. Oct. 1st (meet four times a year on first Thurs. of the month) at 10 am at Biscuit's Cafe 19420 N. 59th Ave. , Glendale, AZ 85308. Contact Susie S. at [ssommer114@aol.com](mailto:ssommer114@aol.com) or text 623-628-1935 for more information.

**Janie Hydrick - East Valley.** - sent out an email to members , not meeting again in person until the fall. Any concerns or need assistance contact Janie H.

**Ann Myers, Nancy Riley - Scottsdale, Paradise Valley:** The Scottsdale/Paradise Valley AEA-Retired Chapter had an abbreviated meeting on March 16. We met in the parking lot of Denny's on Mayo Blvd. in Scottsdale . A big thank you to Marshall Militano for his help with the drive through informational handouts. We will be sharing information electronically for the rest of this pandemic period. No meeting is scheduled for April. Will update members by email for next meeting.

**Marion Pickens- Greater Tucson** We met March 17th with 10 attendees. Discussed having future meetings on Zoom with the chapter.

**Michele Smith - Phoenix** : no updates this month.

### **Sally Rosen - Southern Arizona .**

The Southeast AZ chapter was to meet on March 24, but was cancelled due to restrictions on numbers in a group to 10 and, as it turned out, the restaurant was closed to on site-dining. We will try to reschedule in late May, but the outlook is doubtful. A newly retired AEA-R member and former colleague, Kim Moschetti, contacted Sally about her candidacy for LD 14 representative. We met in Sally's backyard so I could give her Clean Elections donations. Other members of the chapter will be contacted to distance donate and support her candidacy.

**Rob Johan – Yavapai.** — Yavapai Chapter had an in person meeting on March 12th. and Rob will update chapter members by email at this time.

**Ellen Shamah - Kyrene .** -- would like to schedule a Zoom meeting with the chapter in upcoming months.

## 16. Election report -- Juan Zuniga. 84 delegates (met 16% minority representation in our group)

Discussed the plan for annual meetings and elections of officers and exec board. (on May 8th at annual meeting)  
Seven nominees for at-large exec board positions, one for President, one for Treasurer. We will need to have election for Vice president (if Pres. candidate is elected and vacates her office) We will have a half hour break for lunch and voting (either on phone or computer) . Nominations from the floor will get added to the ballot. Speeches are two minutes long. Declarations for Vice President: Steve Linder -- if then for Vice President, & Anna Cicero - if then for Vice President .

## 17.. Alliances and Coalitions

**Valley Interfaith (VIP)-- Larry Wittig** keep in contact via their local church/synagogue or local organization, check on members of their organization and their health and well being, no new organizer hired yet, meeting online this week.

**AZ Alliance for Retired Americans – Janie Hydrick** no updates besides what was said earlier in the meeting.

**AZ School Counselors – Anna Cicero.** Zoom meeting with board this weekend, money from AZ dept of ed for PD, national meeting still scheduled for Seattle in June/July. Still moving forward as best as they can at this time.

**ARSC – Julie Horwin, Steve Ramos.** Continuing to meet weekly. see the report given earlier and the attachment.

18. Adjournment of Executive Board at 1:49 p.m. **Julie Horwin** — AEA-Retired President.

### Upcoming Events:

**AEA-Retired annual meeting May 8th (Zoom virtual meeting). Zoom “Happy hours” practice prior to 5/8**  
**AEA Delegate assembly - May 15th voting online (Delegate assembly in person TBD)**

Respectfully Submitted by Janice Dwosh, AEA-Retired Secretary 4/16/20

**Please stay safe, healthy and connected with family and friends!**