

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting
Minutes of December 8, 2015

1. Call to Order at 10:10 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, Janie Hydrick, Michelle Smith, Ellie Feldner, Marilyn Calhoun, Members; Barbara Matteson, Connie Wittig, Aurora Aber, Kathy Campbell, Cindy Michels, Gary Mehok, Jan Nichols. Guest; Deb Preach, Krista Walker. Staff; Mike Aicone, Margaret Sleeper.

NOTE: Prior to the Approval of the Agenda, Vice-President Austin circulated a card for Mike Aicone's retirement.

2. Approval of Agenda, as amended, with flexibility (Ramage-White/Zuniga) **Approved**

3. Approval of the minutes of November 10, 2015 (Moy/Somo) **Approved**

4. Membership Chair Boswell shared most recent membership data. Currently we have increased to 2168 members with 1611 using dues deduct. We have 87 new members. (See printed report for more information.)

Chairperson Boswell also shared that AEA OC, Faith Risolo, will be working in Yuma and will attempt to start a Yuma chapter with the assistance of Alexis Brokaw.

5. Membership Outreach chairs, Putman/Moy shared that they have the lists of former "Actives," by local who are not yet members. Board members volunteered last month to recruit from the top 10 and other locals using these lists. Because no one on the board from Tucson volunteered last month to recruit these members, she asked again for volunteers. Board members reported out on their successes and on their attempts to recruit additional members.

6. New Business Item-Move that the AEA-Retired Executive Board meet on April 12, 2016 rather than May 10, 2016, as the May date would follow the AEA Delegate Assembly by only three (3) days. (Horwin/Moy) **PASSED**

Move that AEA-Retired donate \$500, as a portion of the membership fee, to the Arizona Retirement Coalition from this year's Affiliation Line. (Horwin/Ramage-White) A great deal of discussion ensued during which was shared that we have received significant money from the National Organization, NPPC, that we are already members through the AEA membership, and that this is seen as one-time investment.

PASSED

7. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$75,375
Liabilities	\$16,657
Equity	\$58,717

(See written report for more information.)

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

Treasurer Linder shared his continued concerns about the Executive Board Lodging. Also shared that though we have been awarded grant money, and it has been reported that AEA has received the money, it has not been transferred to the AEA-Retired account. Linder also asked for the exact amounts of the grants and the documentation from NEA-Retired.

8. Be Kind To People Project-Krista Walker, with introduction by Deb Peach, shared information about this national non-profit that is working through ASU. This character education uses young artisans to attempt to instill life-long values in the students they work with through a team approach. They would like AEA-Retired to assist in recruiting volunteers.

9. AEA Fund-Past-President Somo reported on the most recent AEA Fund Council Meeting. She indicated that the main thrust on the part of AEA, from now through May, will be the passage of Prop 123. Somo further explained that this is a court settlement and should be viewed as such. There was discussion around who might oppose this settlement, which might include some Democrats who have been friends of Education in the past. The Council is looking at the candidate recommendation process for the upcoming 2016 elections. More to follow.

10. Officers' Reports

President Horwin shared information about the MyNEA360 FAQ. This project will permit the NEA, and affiliates, to introduce "new tools, technology and ways of working to enable the Association to better meet our members' current and future needs." The written report details how this technology will assist our membership. Arizona will be amongst the first 12 affiliates to take part. Long term this will be very cost affective.

Vice-President Austin-Did an outstanding job of presenting retiring Financial Manager Mike Aicone with a card, followed by a standing ovation. She also shared a card of thanks from Marian Pickens.

Liaison Sleeper-indicated that AEA currently has 14,840 members. This is an increase of 420. She also shared that Jim Paulson and Nick Malonas are retiring. Sleeper indicated that she would provide the AEA-Retired Treasurer the information he requested.

AEA Director Moy-Copied the AEA-Retired Board with written materials she received at the AEA Board Meeting. She shared that she would kick off the Prop 123 activities in January.

NEA Director J. Campbell-no report.

Secretary K. Freed- no report.

11. ASRS

Chairperson Ramos shared a historical prospective of the ASRS and how well it has been funded since 1986. Currently it is approximately 78% funded and holds \$34,000,000,000.

12. AEA-Retired Elections

Chairperson Ramage-White provided the Board with a written report that details whose term is expiring and who may seek re-election. Additionally, duties and commitments of the Board were included. A Nomination form for Board vacancies as well as for Delegate Assembly was attached.

13. Political Action and Election Update

Chairperson Matteson provided a list of upcoming events. Of particular interest is the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which is a bipartisan bill in Congress that will reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This will be a big win for the NEA and the children of the country.

14. Chapter Chair Reports

Southeast Arizona (Rosen) The chapter last met on Oct. 29, and will next meet in January, with more information to follow.

Greater Phoenix (Smith) The chapter met on Nov. 24, from 10:30-noon at The Beatitudes, 1610 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix. The speaker was Steve Ramos, speaking about the status of ASRS. The next meeting will be on Jan. 26. The chapter's last two meetings of the year have been changed to March 15 and May 17 at 10:30a.m.

Tucson (Calhoun) Reported that they met on 11/17 with Steve Ramos as the speaker. She indicated that there were two guests present, one from the Pima County Retired Teachers Association and the other being the local president of one of the trade unions. They will meet again on 12/15 at the Southern Region office at 3:00, followed by a Legislative Preview.

East Valley/Mesa (Hydrick) The next meeting is 1/13 and the speaker will be Representative Eric Meyer, who will discuss the proposed 28th Amendment, which would eliminate the Citizen's United decision. Future meetings will be 3/9 and 5/11. All meetings are at 63 E. Main St. in Mesa.

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer) The next meeting will be on Thursday, Feb. 4th at 4:00p.m. The meeting on Dec. 3 included speakers from E-swig, Alex Etling and Amber Gould. The meeting will be at the Iron Works Restaurant.

Yavapai (Coleman) The next meeting is yet to be determined. Asked that we please review the information on JTED that he disseminated.

Northern Arizona/Reservation (Goodluck) No report

Scottsdale, Paradise Valley (Austin) The next meeting will be 1/18, from 11:00a.m.-1:00p.m. for lunch at Denny's, 7000 N. Mayo Blvd., Scottsdale. They continue to collect books and magazines for Lodstar along with donating money to the Jack Kinnaman Fund, most recently \$25, at the meeting in Nov. Future meetings are 3/21 and 5/16.

Kyrene (Feldner) Reported they met on 11/18, at Mimi's on Chandler Blvd. and the 101 with Steve Ramos and Linda Somo as the speakers. They will next meet on Jan. 21.

Flagstaff (Roach) The meeting on Dec. 1 had an agenda that included mentoring, enhancing the profession, gun violence, the inflation funding lawsuit, recall of Diane Douglas and teacher appreciation activities. They will meet again on January 5 and talk about the threat to ASRS.

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

15. Alliances and Coalitions

a. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans (Campbell/Somo)

The Alliance met last week and was chaired by John Campbell. In addition to the written report, it was shared that The Alliance is beginning to set up legislative action teams and committees. If you are interested in either, please let John know.

b. Arizona retirement Security Coalition (Horwin)

In addition to the written report, Horwin shared that the Fire and Police need to fix their pension plan as it is unsustainable. This needs to be done with a voter change to their Constitutionally protected plan. However they are not providing us information so that we can ascertain how it will affect the ASRS.

c. Arizona WINS

A written report was provided detailing the use of VAN and some of the successes of AZ Wins. It also shares the current issues that are being supported and the issues that are being considered for support.

16. Half-back Raffle of \$31 was won by Boswell.

17. Adjournment at 12:55. Next meeting is January 12 at headquarters.

****Notes ****

Lunch and a Holiday Gift Exchange were held after adjournment.

No committee meetings were held.