

AEA-Retired Executive Board Meeting  
Minutes of February 9, 2016

1. Call to Order at 10:06 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, Ed Bufford, Anna Cicero, Marilyn Freed, Luci Messing, Carmen Peters, Nancy Putman, Kathy Ramage-White, Steven Ramos, Sally Rosen, Susie Sommer, Jean Stephenson, Larry Wittig, Juan Zuniga. Chapter Chairs; Michelle Smith, Marilyn Calhoun, Tricia Roach. Members; Barbara Matteson, Connie Wittig, Aurora Aber, Cindy Michels, Jan Nichols, Krista Walker, Maria Vinaras, Kristine Ehlis. Guests; Staff; Margaret Sleeper, Todd Crenshaw, Dan Hand.

**NOTE:** Prior to the Approval of Agenda we were introduced to Dan Hand, Manager of the NEA Center for Organizing.

2. Approval of Agenda, with flexibility (K. Freed/Moy)

**Approved**

3. Approval of the minutes of January, 2016 (Ramage-White/Somo)

**Approved**

4. Membership Chair Boswell shared most recent membership data. Currently we have 2111 members with 1579 using dues deduct. We have 96 new members. The official NEA, January number is 2147.

(See printed report for more information.)

5. Membership Outreach chairs, Putman/Moy shared that they have the lists of former “Actives,” by local who are not yet members. They also shared the list of those Board members who have volunteered to help recruit. A letter has been produced to mail to prospective members that Board members may take and mail to those on their lists. Moy suggested attaching your AEA-Retired business card when you send these letters.

6. New Business Item-Move that the AEA-Retired support cities’ passage of “Sick and Safe Days,” legislation, which will promote the economic, social and physical well-being of all persons. (Horwin/Somo) An explanation was provided by the maker, after passing the gavel, and a discussion about what is currently happening in Tempe, Tucson and Phoenix was led by Vice-President Austin.

**PASSED**

7. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$78,293
Liabilities	\$22,331
Equity	\$55,962

(See written report for more information.)

Move Acceptance and file for audit. (K. Freed/Campbell) **Approved**

It was noted that the Strategic Planning Grant has now been completed and that the self-imposed dues assessment of \$2,147 would be paid today.

8. Audit Committee Report-The members of the committee, Thieken, Stephenson, Moy and Linder, reported that the 6 month audit was completed without complications.
9. AEA Financial Review Committee Report-Zuniga, K. Freed and Sleeper reported on the FRC meeting. The good news is that we have grown by 410 active FTEs. The additional monies are being used to diminish the amount of money that needs to be taken from savings. The draft budget was recommended to the AEA Board to take to the delegate assembly. The 2016-2017 budget utilizes the remaining money that is in savings. Without the use of savings, there would be further need for staff reductions.
10. The draft of the 2016-2017 AEA-Retired budget was presented by Chairperson Somo with explanations of the changes being recommended. There was some concern noted as to how we would pay for unexpected trips that were deemed necessary. Also, there was a recommendation that should we decide to join an interfaith group that it be the statewide group, not individual chapter, be joined.

#### 11. Officers' Reports

**President Horwin** shared that there are articles about Steve Ramos and Barbara Matteson in the NEA Today. She also shared her journal of Association activities for the past month.

**Vice-President Austin-Report on M.O.R.E.** Asked people to please register for the receptions and noted that they will begin at 10:00. Asked chapter chairs to share what is going on in their chapters. Thanked all for their donations of door prizes.

**Report on the Annual Meeting.** In a written report, Austin indicated that the DA is at the Scottsdale Resort on May 6. Rooms will be \$126.56 per night, registration \$30.00 and reminded the Board of their commitment to bring wrapped and unwrapped gifts.

**Liaison Sleeper**-Shared that AEA is making a concerted effort to recruit student members. A successful membership campaign was started at ASU followed by activities at NAU. We have recruited 2,151 new members this year, which has netted AEA 410 FTE actives. Indicated that summer leadership is June 9-11.

**AEA Director Moy**-Provided the AEA Board agenda from the most recent meeting and indicated that the AEA Board will be asking for a renewal of the \$12 dues assessment at delegate assembly. She shared a Prop 123 fact sheet.

**NEA Director J. Campbell**-no report.

**NEA's Todd Crenshaw**-thanked those who completed making contacts for M.O.R.E. and indicated that a check for an additional \$5,700 has been received. Shared that there will be another M.O.R.E. reception in the fall. He also discussed the AEA-Retired ad that will appear in the AEA Advocate.

**NEA's Dan Hand**-spoke of the energy of the AEA-Retired Board as a valuable NEA resource.

12. AEA Fund for Children and Public Education

Somo presented a written report of the Fund's calendar and an article about the ASRS pension threat. She also reported that \$3.75M has been gathered for the Prop 123 campaign.

13. Annual Meeting Fundraiser

M. Freed shared the Afghan and quilt that have been secured as raffle prizes for this year's fundraiser. She shared that Aurora Aber and Brenda Pierce have volunteered to assist with the raffle

14. ASRS

Chairperson Ramos provided a written report and indicated that ASU will probably NOT request a bill to remove their employees from the ASRS this year. He shared that ASU has a problem around health insurance. They pay in and what is not used is then swept by the legislature. They are looking for a remedy to this situation.

He indicated that PSPRS will be on the ballot in May. Though it will take approximately 25 years to fix this system, because the changes are only for new employees, it is a step in the right direction for solvency.

15. AEA-Retired Elections

Chairperson Ramage-White provided the Board with a written report that details who has been nominated to run for the AEA-Retired Board and as delegates to the Delegate Assembly. She shared that there are currently 8 people seeking the 6 at-large seats, 1 person seeking the secretary position, and 82 people who have submitted pledge-to-serve forms to serve as delegates. As a result, there is no delegate election necessary. Nominations for board positions will also be taken from the floor of the Annual Meeting.

16. Political Action and Election Update

Chairpersons Matteson and Wittig provided a written report and thanked people for their attendance at the Legislature. The Board was reminded of the March 16 lobby day. Messing reported on the Tucson legislative luncheon and shared how to sign up to speak at the legislature.

17. Chapter Chair Reports

Southeast Arizona (Rosen) The chapter met on January 28 at the Manda Le Restaurant. There were 21 members in attendance. Topics discussed

included senior scams, identity protection and aiding a member undergoing chemo/radiation treatment. The next meeting is in March with details to be determined

Greater Phoenix (Smith) The next meeting will be on March 15, 2016, at the Beatitudes. Jan Nichols spoke on Jan. 26 on the state of charter schools.

Tucson (Calhoun) Reported that they met on Jan. 9. The chapter voted to help fund the legislative luncheon. They will meet again on Feb. 23 at the Southern Region office with Jan Nichols speaking.

East Valley/Mesa (Somo) The next meeting is March 9 and the speaker will be Stacey Morley. Future meetings will be on 5/11. All meetings are at 63 E. Main St. in Mesa.

West Valley/Glendale (Sommer) The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 7, 2016, at 4:00p.m. The meeting will be at the Iron Works Restaurant at 45<sup>th</sup> and Bell Rd.

Yavapai (Coleman) No Report.

Northern Arizona/Reservation (Goodluck) No report

Scottsdale, Paradise Valley (Austin) The next meeting will be March 21, at Denny's, 7000 N. Mayo Blvd., Scottsdale, with Krista Walker presenting. They continue to collect books and magazines for Lodstar along with donating money to the Jack Kinnaman Fund. There were 25 in attendance at the Jan. 18 meeting where Jan Nichols was the presenter.

Kyrene (Feldner) They will next meet on March 17 at a place and with the speaker to be determined.

Flagstaff (Roach) They are working NAU and supporting the F.E.A. Their next meeting is on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Thank you to Sally, Susie, Michelle and Ellie for providing written reports.

18. Alliances and Coalitions

a. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans (Campbell)  
No report at this time.

b. Arizona retirement Security Coalition (Horwin)

Horwin shared that the Fire and Police pension fix was covered in Ramos's report.

c. AZ Wins (Horwin)

A printed report was presented which included information on "Ballot Harvesting," the Voter Education Bill, and auto voter registration. Polling is being done and will be forwarded to the Board.

19. Half-back Raffle of \$41 was won by L. Wittig.

20. Adjournment at 3:22. The next meeting is March 8, 2016.

**\*\*Notes\*\***

Lunch included an 8 minute recess and a presentation by Be Kind To Children.