



**ATTENDANCE: P=present, A=absent**

**BOARD:** Anna Cicero-P, Luci Messing-P, Maria Leyva-P, Steve Linder-P, Julie Horwin-A, Danny Barlow-P, Peter Coston-A, Marilyn Calhoun-P, Cindy Couture-P, Janice Dwosh-P, Jeanne Erickson-P, Cynthia Hale-P, Ken Freed-P, Marilyn Freed-P, Deb Larned-P, Sharin Manes-P, Barbara Matteson-P, Gary Mehok-P, Lizzie Menefee-P, Marshall Militano-P, Nancy Putman-P, Nancy Riley-P, Linda Somo-P  
**CHAPTER CHAIRS:** Susie Sommer-P, Suzan Austin-P, Janie Hydrick-A, Sally Rosen-A, Ellen Shamah-A  
**OTHER LEADERS & GUESTS:** Shirley Boswell-P, Julie Cieniawski-A, Cecilia Garcia-P, Dave Hankin-P, Bart James-A, Norma Jimenez-A, Jan Nichols-A, Carmen Peters-P, Steve Ramos-P, Judy Robbins-A, Michele Smith-P, Jean Stephenson-A, Sandra Warns-P, Nedra White-P, Ellie Perez-Pawloski-P, Inez Loureiro-P, Dan Menefee-P

**Call to Order** - Anna Cicero, President

**Land Acknowledgement - Racial and Social Justice** - Cynthia presented.

**Approval of Agenda**- with flexibility. Moved by Ken. Seconded by Linda S. Motion passed.

**Approval of January Minutes**- Moved by Ken. Seconded by Gary. Motion Passed.

**Financial Report** - Steve L./Treasurer presented the reports, and focused on some areas of interest. We have IRS documents regarding the abatement was extended by 60 days. Steve L. reported the reports as ready for audit. Motion to approve the report and submit for audit by Ken. Seconded by Danny. Motion passed.

**Membership**- (refer to two written reports) Nancy P reported current membership numbers, and we surpassed our goal of 80 new members! Michele shared the membership table script. Maria shared new decals for the Annual Meeting goodie bag. Lizzie added she's a member of a local women's club and plans to get new members as many in the club are retired educators. Nancy passed around the Membership table script and caucus volunteer list.

**GUEST:** Josh Atkins-Candidate for AEA Treasurer

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**President- Anna:** (refer to submitted written report that is also in the Appendix).

**Vice President/AEA Director- Luci:** (refer to submitted written report that is also in the Appendix) Reminded everyone about the C.A. #2. She will have stickers made to promote a YES vote.

**Secretary- Maria:** (refer to submitted written report that is also in the Appendix)

**NEA Director/Past President- Julie:** Absent. No report.

**AEA Liaison- Ellie Perez-Pawloski:** Reported on AEA Lobby Days in March and some Legislative Bills to follow.

**New Business Items/Motions:** #1. Ken motioned to send/donate \$500 to the NEA Kinneman Fund. Marilyn C seconded. Motion passed.

**STANDARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PAEC**- Anna presented the report. There was a discussion on current events like deportations and due process. Marshall spoke about "red cards" for ICE that help people with Homeland Security concerns. Cindy C. agreed to attend NEA ZOOM's for Public Policy Discussions.

**Racial & Social Justice**- Janice reported on the NEA Leadership Summit, and the Women's Issues Committee needs unopened personal hygiene products. Janice has attended many Chapter meetings, and she has 10 books to loan to people who are interested.

**Communications:**

**Website/Instagram**- Maria reported on the NEA Leadership Summit and the communication track she followed. An interesting topic was intergenerational communication. Maria requested for more people to share photos taken at events with her so she can share them with The Conduit and AEA.

**Facebook**-Steve R requested more likes and shares.

**ZOOM**- Susie S and Sandy W reported that all is well.

**Mail Chimp**- Peter reported emails are going well. Anna thanked him for being flexible.

**The Conduit**- Jan and Bart are requesting a "needs survey" from members.

**Retreat Update:** Luci motioned for the date to be Tues. June 10. Ken seconded. Motion passed.

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEES/AD HOC:**

**ASRS-** Steve R reported the stock market is dropping. It's too soon to tell how it will affect investments.

**Pre-Retirement Seminars-** Linda, Steve R, and Anna reported on presentations. Team may have to reconsider some things to improve upon for next year.

**Annual Meeting-** Anna reminded everyone about the Task List. Those people arriving early on Thursday and Board Members should help with as many set-up activities as they can.

**Fundraising/Quilt-** Marilyn F requested help at the table and passed around a sign up list.

**Fundraising/NEA-R-** Barb asked for people to bring something nice to auction-no junk. Suggestion to bring address labels for tickets, and silent auction items should be extra nice.

**Les Reynolds Annual Award-** Nancy P presented a cake for lunch to celebrate Danny's award. She shared the plaque that will have his name engraved.

**Elections-** Steve L reported there are ten people for six At-Large positions and one for Secretary. There was a reminder that candidates are responsible for their own printing of election materials.

**Documents-** Deb needs all committee roles and responsibilities to help with Ad-Hoc and Standing Committees. For more details, refer to the written report.

**Budget-** Steve L presented the proposed 2025-2026 Budget. Linda motioned to approve the budget. Nancy P seconded. Motion passed.

**CHAIR OF ALL CHAPTERS -** Susie Sommer requested that Chapter Chairs encourage their attendees to invite others from their other groups to attend Chapter meetings.

**\*Refer to Appendix for Written Reports- No Verbal Reports due to time**

<b>Glendale/West Valley*-</b> Marshall	<b>Southern/Sierra Vista*-</b> Sally
<b>East Valley*-</b> Janie	<b>Greater Phoenix*-</b> Suzan A.- Gary
<b>Kyrene*-</b> Ellen	<b>Interstate, Flagstaff, Northern AZ, Reservation Report*-</b> Danny
<b>Scottsdale/Paradise Valley/Fountain Hills-</b> Nancy R	
<b>Greater Tucson*-</b> Peter C	

### **ALLIANCES AND COALITION UPDATES**

**ARSC-** Steve R reported that Daniella is working very hard for AEA-R.

**AARA-AZ Alliance for Retired Americans-** Linda reported about 100 people attended the Women in Organized Labor event. There were six women on the panel.

**AIN-** Ken reported he's communicating with Frank.

**Kinnaman Raffle-** Ken reported \$26 dollars each way. Cynthia won.

**Closure and Adjournment @ 2:42 PM.**

## **APPENDIX – WRITTEN REPORTS**

### **President's Report- April 8, 2025 by Anna Cicero**

**"Hot off the Press" in progress:** Tabling ideas, Pre-retirement presentations, Summer Retreat planning and survey, NHA-New Hire Action coming our way, Annual Meeting and more. We have an amazing AEA Retired Board and I thank you for all everyone does!

**NEA Leadership Summit and NEA Retired Conference- March 6-11-** Detroit Michigan- two very successful events. What made it that way were useful sessions, informative and practical ideas to implement in AZ. As we plan the Retreat I will highlight some ideas once we combine with those of our colleagues, Maria and Janice.

**ACLU- Health Care Rising Arizona-Press Conference- - March 29-** Hands Off – Medicaid , ACCCHS, SS. The impact of WH DOGE cuts to personnel and programs will be monumental for the most vulnerable. Provided materials (posters) and engagement events to share. (Shared at AARA Event)

**Education Days at the Capitol- March 12, March 19-** Thank you to everyone that was able to attend the AEA Action for Public Education and Capitol Walk-in. Marching and chanting around the Capitol, meeting with legislators and Congressman Stanton, learning about bad bills progressing through legislative chambers and committees all lead to the same message: Organize, take a stance and let your voices be heard.

**Rally at ASU- March 20<sup>th</sup>-Fight Oligarchy-** Senator Bernie Sanders, AEA President Marisol Garcia electrified the audience of 6-7K voters and introduced AOC-Alexandra Ocasio Cortez. Reaffirming our cause, sadly our fears and our motivation to continue the fight with solidarity.

**Pre-Retirement Seminars** – In progress. One down , 2 to go. March 27, April 10 and April 17. Keep encouraging your Local area actives under contract to attend. Thank you presentation core team.

- **Presenting in Glendale EA Local Business** Mtg. on April 9. Thank you Maria for your support and also we will have an opportunity to do outreach and tabling for member recruitment.
- **Presenting at Kyrene EA-** Local Members Meeting a short Mic opportunity with Ellie and Delia Lyding to share who AEA Retired is , what we do and highlight our membership options. Thank you President Lyding for the opportunity to continue to build relationships.

**AARA- An amazing event at on March 28. Woman's History Month-** Strong Women in Apprenticeships and Trades. Their trades panel was so insightful, the stories and the history built into the stories was moving and so real. Resources were shared by many. Feel free to pick up materials in the center table.

**East Valley Chapter Meeting-April 1.** our last for the year but we will soon meet in the many rallies and organizing action in the work! We missed you Janie but, the group had a great discussion about our pension, health care and more. I thank Linda, Steve, and Jean Stephenson for all their contributions to the discussion.

**Hands Off Rally-** This weekend @ the East Valley, joining School Board members and Retirees from various coalitions and boards. We will be at Baseline and Val Vista at 10Am on Sat. April 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for attending those Hands Off state rallies near you.

## **AEA Retired Vice President Report April 2025**

There was a good showing of AEA Retired members for both AEA Days at the Capitol. Governor Katie Hobbs was the guest speaker on March 12 and Congressman Greg Stanton was the speaker on March 19. We are very lucky to have these two individuals in the positions that they now serve. We are entering uncharted territory if the constitutional amendment passes and we get a second AEA Retired Director. Anna and I discussed first steps regarding the appointment of the second director. We would like for anyone interested in serving as the second director to send an email to us expressing that interest. You can also nominate someone but please be sure that they are willing to serve. A committee will be created that will include the officers and other members of the board to develop a process for the appointment. Remember, this seat is for one year only. There will be an election at next years' delegate assembly to elect the second director for a 3 year term. Once

we make a selection, Anna will share the name with Marisol. The tentative timeline is for the AEA Board to approve the appointment at the September meeting. I do have a message from Senator Mark Kelly. At the town hall that I attended, he assured the attendees that he and Senator Gallego would push back on the current administration **Events Attended** • AEA Retired Board meeting (3/4) • AEA Lobby Days (3/12, 3/19) • AEA Board Meeting (3/15) • AEA-R Tucson Chapter Meeting (3/18) • ARSC Zoom Meetings (3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7) • AEA weekly updates (3/5, 3/12, 3/26, 4/2) • LD 17 Meeting (3/19) • Ciscomani Protest (3/20) • Sen Kelly Medicaid Town Hall 3/21) • Cesar Chavez/Dolores Huerta March (3/22) • Congressman Raul Grijalva's Services (3/26) • AARA Women in Power Luncheon (3/28) • Tesla Protest (3/29) • League of Women Voters Annual Event (3/7) **RESIST! Luci**

## **Secretary's Report – April 2025**

### **Submitted by Maria Leyva**

Since the previous board meeting, I have done the following things:

- Attended the NEA Leadership Summit and the NEA Retired Conference in Detroit, MI
- Attended the AEA Lobby Day at the Capitol on March 19
- Met with Anna, Steve, and Linda via ZOOM to prepare for the virtual "So, You're Thinking About Retiring?" pre-retirement seminar
- Met with Nora V. from AARA at the IBEW Hall to get ready for the March 28 AARA Celebration of Women's History Month
- Ordered two vinyl banners, decals, and magnetic clips for AEA-R goodies to give to Annual Meeting attendees and use for visibility opportunities like "tabling" at AEA and other events
- Attended my LD27 Dems monthly meeting
- Attended my Glendale/West Valley Chapter meeting and reported out as AEA Secretary and Communications Chair
- Participated in the Pre-Retirement Virtual Seminar on Thursday, March 27
- Revised and updated the AEA-R website to include information on Annual Meeting registration, updated the Quilt page, uploaded The Conduit, and revised pictures on home page.
- Posted and shared posts on AEA-R Instagram
- Coordinated with President Cicero regarding making copies, communications, and preparing documents for the board meeting
- Reformatted some documents for the board documents email
- Created the RSVP for board meeting attendance, added a question for a printed packet, and lunch reservations