



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-P, 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-P, Sally Rosen-P, Ellen Shamah-P

OTHER LEADERS & GUESTS: Shirley Boswell-P, Julie Cieniawski-A, Cecilia Garcia-A, 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-A, Ellie Perez-Pawloski-P, Dave Hankin-A, Sylvia Barlow-P

Call to Order - Anna Cicero, President

Land Acknowledgement - Racial and Social Justice - Janice presented an account of some Northern Arizona Native Peoples.

Approval of Agenda- with flexibility. Moved by Ken. Seconded by Gary. Motion passed.

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

Financial Report - Steve L./Treasurer presented the reports, and reported them ready for audit. Motion to approve the report and submit for audit by Danny. Seconded by Janice. Motion passed.

Membership- (refer to two written reports) Nancy P reported current membership numbers. Nancy also reported gains in membership. Michele and Maria emphasized the importance of maintaining a relationship with your Adopt-A-Local and former active local, and finding new members using social media/Facebook. We need to be more visible to active members. Shirley attended the NEA Membership Zoom meeting. The Spirit of Membership Award will be changed to the Tom Wellman Spirit of Membership Award. Anna reported on positive experiences and encounters with active members during the Racial and Social Justice Mini-Conference

OFFICER REPORTS:

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

Vice President/AEA Director- Luci: (refer to written report that is also in the Appendix)

Secretary- Maria: (refer to submitted written report that is also in the Appendix) She reminded everyone the importance of powering down/restarting your cell phone every day.

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

AEA Liaison- Ellie Perez-Pawloski: Reported on AEA Lobby Days in March, some Legislative Bills to monitor like Prop 123, and Issac District's financial circumstance.

New Business Items/Motions: Anna presented some highlights from NEA President Pringle and advice for locals. Also, AEA will now have two NEA directors due to membership growth, and AEA-R will have two directors on the AEA Board which included a new AEA Retired region.

STANDARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PAEC- Anna summarized Monday's Legislature Opening Day and encouraged more people to attend the Lobby Days on Jan. 22 and Feb. 12. There were discussions regarding SB1028 and more people using RTS. It was noted that there should be more timely notices regarding bills in committees from the AEA. Shared draft proposal for the budget.

Racial & Social Justice- Janice presented her report, and presented some books to consider for Black History Month. She will be presenting at the NEA Retired Conference in Detroit. Janice reported on positive encounters at the Racial and Social Justice Mini Conference. Deb attended a presentation on Environmental Racism and water concerns in rural areas. Anna attended a workshop on immigration guidelines and LGBTQ+ issues. Cynthia shared experiences with Spanish-speaking attendees/ESP's, and encouraging them to advocate more and be leaders.

Communications:

Website/Instagram- Maria reported that she is transitioning (learning) Survey Monkey and PayPal options for the website and Annual Meeting registration.

Facebook-Steve R asked people to keep sharing posts.

ZOOM- Susie S reported that all is well.

Mail Chimp- Peter reported all is well.

AEA Staff Connection & Support- Anna reported that Carrie, AEA, is working well with us.

The Conduit- Jan and Bart – both absent. No report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES/AD HOC:

ASRS- Steve R reported an ASRS bill is with Livingston with some possible language changes for the wait time for new retirees. ESI hired a lobbyist against the bill. ARSC continues to advocate for best practices with ASRS.

Pre-Retirement Seminars- Linda, Steve R, and Anna reported possible dates are in progress.

Annual Meeting- Anna reported breakfast will be plated and registration fee is \$55. Past presidents will be invited, and the escalator is fixed.

Les Reynolds Annual Award- Nancy P reported Danny Barlow is this year's recipient.

Fundraising/Quilt- Marilyn F reported there are still tickets available. Goal is \$1,500.

Fundraising/NEA-R- Barb asked for people to bring something nice to auction. She requested that Chapter Chairs ask for donations from their attendees.

Elections- Steve L reported that everything is being prepared for the Annual Meeting.

Documents- Deb requested possible revisions to lists of Ad-Hoc and Standing Committees. For more details, refer to the written report.

Budget- Steve L reported the draft 2025-2026 Budget will be presented in March for April vote.

Audit- Carmen needed to leave early. No report.

CHAIR OF ALL CHAPTERS - Susie Sommer reported that some Chapters are meeting monthly and attendance is increasing.

VERBAL REPORTS *Or refer to Appendix for Written Reports

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| Glendale/West Valley*- Marshall- Had a guest speaker, and now meeting monthly. | Southern/Sierra Vista*- Sally (written report) Attendance is increasing. |
| East Valley*- Janie- speakers were Jude for CEBV & RTS. Janice for Racial and Social Justice. | Greater Phoenix*- Suzan A.-Gary- David from Member Benefits was guest speaker |
| Kyrene*- Ellen- speaker was Senator Mitsi Epstein. | Interstate, Flagstaff, Northern AZ, Reservation Report*- Danny prefers meeting in-person, and using ZOOM less often. |
| Scottsdale/Paradise Valley/Fountain Hills- Nancy R reported on first meeting of 2025. | |
| Greater Tucson*- Peter C | |

ALLIANCES AND COALITION UPDATES

ARSC- Linda shared a summary the Virtual Day at the Capitol ZOOM. There was good attendance.

AARA-AZ Alliance for Retired Americans- Linda reported March 28 Celebration of Women's History Month at the IBEW. (see flyer)

AIN- Ken reported nothing to report.

Kinnaman Raffle- Ken reported \$31 dollars each way. Frank B won.

Closure and Adjournment @ 2:25 PM.

President's Report/Reminders- February 2025 by Anna Cicero

AEA Retired Reminders:

- Feb. 1- Anna along with other board members, attending the **Racial Social Justice Mini Conference**- This will be our **FIRST Tabling- Membership Outreach for 2025 with actives**. Tableing is our discussed strategy to increase membership. Great way to meet your Pledge if you recruit a member!
- Feb. 7- **ARSC Virtual Day at the Capitol**- thank you Daniela and team 1-3PM
- Feb. 11- Board Mtg.- please call Luci if Tucson area folks need hotel rooms that night
- Feb. 12- 2nd Lobby Day- Senate Building- **Senate Caucus Room**- pass the word
- Feb. 24 – The Conduit Deadline- check March 2024 Issue on the www.azedretired.com
(Annual Mtg. Registration FORM LINK in progress. Survey Monkey transition from Julie Horwin to Maria Leyva and Anna C. many behind the “scenes” details being worked out with Nicole Adams and Julie Horwin.)
- Feb. 28- Nomination Form Deadline- (DA delegate/Positions on the Board-Secretary & 6 At-Large)
- March 1- Nomination Form Deadline-Director and Alt. Director
- March 28- Save the Date! **AARA** Invites you to celebrate women shaping the future of Labor. **Women's History Month- Strong Union Women in Apprenticeships & Trades. See attached flyer.**

AEA Reminders:

- Feb. 3- Local **allocation reports** for the **AEA Delegate Assembly** will be emailed to local presidents and contacts during the week of February 3, 2025. The deadline for submitting delegates and alternates to the **AEA Delegate Assembly is March 25, 2025.**
- Feb. 20- March 1- **AEA ESP Conference**- Tabling Set up- this will be our **SECOND tabling Membership Outreach Conference with ACTIVES**. *Board volunteers will be needed to monitor the table both days.*
(Location is AEA Headquarters, times Fri. 5:30 -7:00pm, Sat. 9-1:00 pm) see membership if you can help.
- March 1- Nomination Form Deadline-AEA Candidates for all AEA Officers, Directors and Alt. –Nominees who wish their candidate statement and/or photo published in the AEA Advocate and the Delegate Assembly materials should submit their nomination form for publication to the AEA Elections Committee by **5 p.m. on March 1, 2025. A suggestion was brought up to invite AEA office position candidates after the March 1 deadline once we know the names. Then invite them again during Caucus at DA. More details coming on this.**
- March 12 and March 19- around most districts' Spring Break will be the AEA Days at the Capitol. Save the Dates!

NEA and NEA Retired: **Virtual Auction “on Fire”! PAC is how we make a difference in CONGRESS!** From both Becky Pringle and Anita Gibson...and our fearless leader Julie Horwin

- Please read the email messages from Julie Horwin (NEA Retired) and **DONATE** an item and fill out the “in-kind” donation form ASAP. Thank you!
- **March 6-11th- NEA Leadership Summit/ NEA Retired Conference**- 4 board members all booked and registered. Thank you for representing...Anna, Maria, Michele and Janice!! ☺

AEA Retired Vice President Report February 2025

AEA Retired lobby day went very well. Thank you to all who attended. Looking forward to tomorrow for our second day at the Capitol (Senate Democratic Caucus Room). If you still have your yellow summary sheet from last time, please turn in asap. Let me know if you have any questions. We have been bombarded with the absolute absurdity of the current Felon-N-Chief and that is their plan. Complete chaos and a whack-a-mole strategy that only works if we give in. I know we all already do so much but we are in different times now and we need to adjust as best we can. So, consider if there is just one more thing that you can do. It might be necessary to give up something but the choice is yours. A few suggestions and reminders: - Respond to alerts from Civic Engagement Beyond Voting (cebv@us) - Maintain a lookout for information from AEA and AEA Retired. - Attend your LD meetings and learn more about options for engagement - Encourage family and friends to become more informed about what is at stake - Ask for individuals to volunteer where they are comfortable Remember that any task no matter how small can help.

Events Attended • Opening Day @ the Legislature (1/13) • AEA Retired Board meeting (1/14) • ARSC/NPPC Videotaped (1/14) • AEA-R Tucson Chapter Meeting (1/21) • AEA Retired Lobby Day (1/22) • AEA Special Board Meeting (1/22) • NEA- R Legislative Committee (1/30) • ARSC Zoom Meetings (1/21), (1/27), (2/3) • AEA weekly updates (1/22), (1/29), (2/5) • AEA Board Meeting (2/8) **RESIST! Luci**

Secretary's Report – January 2025

Submitted by Maria Leyva

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

- Attended the AZ Legislature Opening Day
- Attended the Glendale/West Valley Chapter Meeting
- Participated in the Women's March on Saturday, Dec. 18
- Attended the January 22nd AEA Retired Lobby Day at the Capitol
- Revised and updated the AEA-R website
- 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

WRITTEN CHAPTER REPORTS – FEBRUARY 2025

Submitted by Susie Sommer

Southeast Arizona Chapter- Sally Rosen

Change of date of our meeting worked out well. We were able to have discussions and catch up with each other as not allowed by the crowds we had experienced. Nine attended our meeting, Next meeting Feb. 20.