



AEA-RETIRED EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

DATE: Thursday, December 13, 2007

LOCATION: AEA Headquarters Board Room 345 East Palm Lane, Phx., AZ

TIME: 10:00 AM - 11:25 AM

APPROVED MINUTES

Attendance: OFFICERS: Kathy Campbell, Linda Somo, Julie Horwin, Connie Wittig

PAST PRESIDENTS AND STAFF: John Campbell, Bob Bloom

REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE: Aurora Aber, Suzan Austin, Frank Bing, Wayne Diehl, Ken Freed, Paula Grigsby, Gary Mehok, Cindy Michaels, Marion Pickens, Brenda Pierce, Steve Ramos, Jean Stephenson, Daina Swinford

COMMITTEE CHAIRS NOT ON EXEC. BOARD: Paula De Pertista, Helga Krantz, Linda Thieken, Judy Moy

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVES: Susie Sommer

AEA : Mike Aicone

GUESTS: Frank Sacco, Jean Bloom

AGENDA	Minutes
1. CALL TO ORDER Welcome/ Reflections	<p>President Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>She introduced Frank Sacco, <i>Independent Voice</i> http://www.azindependent.com. She welcomed Paula DePetista who is now on the Membership Committee, and Jean Bloom, Bob Bloom's wife who brought a fabulous Christmas gift for the exchange after today's meeting. (As did everyone - and a great deal of fun was had by all!)</p> <p>President Campbell reminded us of the gift exchange and holiday meal after today's meeting, and thanked Ken Freed for heading up the exchange.</p> <p>Pres. Campbell gave an update on Barb Matteson's health. Send well-wishes to matteson@dakotacom.com</p>
2. CORRESPONDENCE/ INFRMATN'L ITEMS	<p>President Cambell noted the upcoming elections for officers and members at large, along with AEA Delegate Convention and NEA-RA Delegate Convention.</p>
3. AGENDA ADDITIONS/ APPROVAL Kathy Campbell	<p>Motion: Ken Freed moved to accept the agenda with flexibility/ 2nd: Linda Somo Passed</p>
4. MINUTES CORRECTIONS/ APPROVAL Julie Horwin	<p>Board packet pages. Motion to approve Nov.2007, Exec. Board Minutes: Connie Wittig / 2nd: Ken Freed Passed.</p>
5. TREASURER'S REPORT/ Connie Wittig	<p>Board packet pages. Motion to approve: John Campbell 2nd: Aurora Aber Passed</p>
6. Standing Committee Reports (Reports are in written form. If no written report, no discussion unless there are questions. Chairs are asked to high-light their reports. Discussion will center on questions, suggestions, clarifications, problems.	
A. MEMBERSHIP Daina Swinford/	<p>Report in Board packet. The dropped members have been purged from the AEA database. Presently, 1,762 members. The list of those who have not renewed was passed around today so that exec. board can note who they can call. A special note from Daina Swinford: AEA-Ret. is nine members short of having 9 representatives at the NEA-RA. January 15 is the deadline for signing up members to be counted for this deadline. Please call and recruit members you know who have not renewed, or recently retired and have not joined.</p>
B. RETIREMENT COMMITTEES	

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I. HEALTH INSURANCE Helga Krantz	<p>Helga Krantz asked if there were any Health Savings Plans available through AEA or NEA for retirees.</p> <p>She also mentioned that she has been contacted with a question about why unmarried partners may not be a part of a retired member's health insurance. Mike Aicone answered that the state legislature must approve it. Gov. Napolitano is putting forward some suggestions. Mike will find out more and bring information to the February meeting.</p>
2. A.S.R.S. Steve Ramos Bob Bloom	<p>Pages in Board packet. Steve Ramos reported on the meetings held in November and December at the ASRS. There are still a very few number of people on the "Old System". When there are no more - ASRS Board must decide what to do with the left-over monies and investments. They need and have presented different actuarial assumptions and rules. Steve noted that according to actuarial tables, those with more money live longer. 13th Check: This is decided for those on the old system each year. This year there will not be enough money.</p> <p>Steve noted that AEA will hold its own Return-to-Work strategy meeting on Dec. 18 for a selection of those available who have been attending the ASRS Return-to-Work Meeting.</p>
3. PRESENTATION Frank Bing	<p>There has been interest in the Pre-Retirement Workshop. Those will probably begin to come in more as the year begins to wind down. At the next AEA-Ret. Board meeting in February, Frank and John will hold a training for presenting the Pre-Retirement Workshop.</p>
4. CONTSITUION /BYLAWS John Campbell	<p>No Report.</p>
C. LEGISLATIVE Julie Horwin, Marion Pickens, Bob Bloom	<p>The AEA Board of Directors adopted the 2008 Legislative Agenda. (Included in this month's board packet.)</p> <p>Some discussion about 10-year smoothing.</p>
D. PUBLIC RELATIONS Suzan Austin/ Frank Bing/	<p>Suzan Austin and Frank Bing will begin working on the next Conduit issue for the spring which will go out February 11. They will concentrate on the AEA-Ret. grant and mentoring program: AZ IMPACT.</p> <p>Suzan and Frank asked that if you have or know of any AEA-Ret. activities for Read Across America Day in Mar, to let them know. suzanaustin@netzero.com or FrankBCTA@aol.com. They were thanked by Pres. Campbell and the room for the outstanding look and articles that we have come to expect from the newsletter.</p>
E. SOCIAL Marion Pickens	<p>Marion Pickens thanked everyone for their attention to responsibilities on their assigned dates. She noted that things were going very well.</p>
F. ANNUAL MTG AnnJi Craig-Wooten Celebration: Julie Horwin	<p>Julie noted that no one responded to her request for a meeting. She needs to meet with each of the committees in January in order to finalize plans and begin preparations for the 20-year Celebration. Julie will send out that meeting request again, and she urged everyone to please respond.</p>
7. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS - AS NEEDED	
A. AUDIT Connie Wittig	<p>Connie Wittig noted that there are no Audit Committee members, and the time is nearing for the bi-yearly audit. Linda Thieken and Judy Moy volunteered. A big cheer went up in the room. They will meet with Connie, and complete it over the next two months.</p>
B. BUDGET Connie Wittig	<p>Connie Wittig sent around to the Exec. Board, a few dates for the Annual Budget Meeting in January. She will contact us for the final date. The meeting will be for the purpose of planning the budget for the coming year.</p>

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<p>C. ELECTIONS Linda Somo Steve Ramos</p>	<p>Linda Somo noted that there have been the following nominations for the Spring Elections: AEA-Delegate Assembly: 24 out of the 75 positions we have available. She asked that local Chairs bring along nomination forms and recruit at their next local meetings. She also asked that everyone at today's meeting make a point of recruiting individuals to fill out a nomination form and attend the AEA Annual Meeting.</p> <p>AEA-Ret. Representatives-at-Large: Aurora Aber, Wayne Diehl, Gary Mehok, Daina Swinford, Ken Freed Executive Board: President: Linda Somo Treasurer: Jean Stephenson</p> <p>Nominations close January 11 for all of the above (except for the 2 officer positions for which nominations can be taken from the floor of the AEA-Delegate Assembly in April) All above nomination forms, including those for NEA-RA, have been published in the Conduit and are available on-line through arizonaea.org.</p>
<p>D. FUNDRAISING Aurora Aber</p>	<p>Aurora mentioned that a new quilt has been started and she will put together baskets for the Annual fundraiser.</p> <p>Aurora also suggested that we offer a vest or other attire in order to identify AEA-Ret. members at the Delegate Assembly and in honor of 20 years. Some discussion/suggestions about what attire to order.</p> <p>A suggestion was made that once the decision has been made about what to order, that the order form be included in the informational packets that go out to the delegates.</p>
<p>E. HISTORIAN Annji Craig-Wooton</p>	<p>No report. Historian believed to be doing research in Machu Pichu, Peru.</p>
<p>F. SUNSHINE Cindy Michels</p>	<p>No report.</p>
<p>G. GRANT Paula Grigsby</p>	<p>Report pages in this month's board packet. Paula came early to facilitate the Grant Committee meeting, but left to conduct a training. Linda Thieken gave report for her: Latest budget numbers for the Grant. Projected budget for the upcoming year, including recruitment, celebration, supplies, and training activities.</p> <p>John Campbell noted that the existing grants are over the next year, so it is time to begin planning for Grants from in-state corporations and other entities who wish to partner with and support this important Committee.</p> <p>Paula will hold a subcommittee report for those interested.</p>
<p>8. TASK FORCE REPORTS</p>	
<p>A. MENTORING Paula Grigsby</p>	<p>Report in Board Packet.</p> <p>Phoenix group: 4 existing pairs and are expecting over 400 students at the meeting in February at ASU from which they can recruit more. A celebration will be held in first week of February.</p> <p>Tucson group doing extremely well, with a lot of excellent leadership; Yuma group continues to grow and doing well.</p> <p>First Five Group: 3 students have been identified to begin this new venture. Solid plans will be in place by February.</p>
<p>B. STATEWIDE CHAPTERS Gary Mehok</p>	<p>No report.</p>
<p>C. POLICY HNCBK John Campbell</p>	<p>No report.</p>

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D. ANNUAL MEMBER AWARD Bertha Myers John Campbell	<p>John Campbell noted that a nomination form went out in the Conduit. It is also available on line through arizonaea.org through the AEA-Retired Section.</p> <p>The deadline for nominations is January 10</p>
E. CHAPTER DESIGNEES	
PHOENIX Brenda Pierce	<p>Frank Sacco is the president of this local. They meet at the Home Town Buffet. Next meeting: Thursday, January 17, 10:30 AM. Jennifer Daily, AEA Lobbyist will speak about 2008 AEA Legislative Agenda, and the 4 bills AEA is likely to put forward in 2008 Legislative Session. Everyone is invited. If you plan to attend, please contact Brenda Pierce: pbic111@aol.com 602-973-2822 or Frank Sacco: fsacco1@cox.net 602-279-5196.</p> <p>Claudia Walton heads up fundraiser: Please donate empty pill bottles to be filled with shampoo and donated to homeless shelters. Frank Sacco collects eyeglasses for the Lions' Club and the group also collects stuffed animals for the Police. Contact Brenda or Frank above with donations.</p>
GLENDALE Susie Sommer	<p>Susie Sommer reported that their calendar is set for 2008. They meet from 4-6 PM. Feb. 21st is their next meeting. ProjectsL Andrea's Closet (toys) Children's Ward, Thunderbird Hospital. For Donations, please contact Susie. Their membership had a question: With possible Unification of Districts, will the retired teacher agreements be honored, and by whom? Mike Aicone will research and bring information to the February meeting.</p>
TUCSON Aurora Aber	<p>Aurora Aber reported that Thursday, December 20, at 2 PM is the date set for next meeting at TEA Office in Tucson. Guest speakers will be Claudia Jensen (AZ IMPACT) and Marion Pickens (2008 Legislative Agenda). They will be sure to take plenty of AEA-Delegate Assembly nomination forms.</p>
WHITE MNTNS Billie Fugate	<p>No report.</p>
MESA Steve Ramos	<p>Steve Ramos reported that the next Mesa AEA-Ret. local meeting is set for January 9, 11 AM. Recruitment for AEA Delegate Assembly will be a priority.</p>
PRESCOTT Helga Krantz	<p>Helga Krantz reported that Thursday, January 10, 11:00 AM is their next meeting date. Topic: How to Raise Support for PBI. Steve Ramos and Gary Mehok will attend the meeting and facilitate the information and discussion.</p>
YUMA Bernadette Presloid	<p>No report. AZ IMPACT meetings may be serving as their local chapter meetings.</p>
10. REPORTS	
A. AEA Board of DIRECTORS Linda Somo	<p>Written report in board packet. Director Somo reported that the last meeting of the Board was Nov. 30 (Joint meeting of AEA Staff and the Board) and December 1, regular board meeting. Highlights from the meeting include: Inclusion of Equity Bill in AEA 2008 Legislative Agenda. Others: The Board took a position to support DVR for NEA President; Dir. Somo, Chair of the Mbr Benefits Task Force presented an update of the work of the Task Force and their process for vendor reviews; Review of AESO Agreement prior to bargaining their new agreement; Exec. Dir. Mathis's Review of AEA Comprehensive State Plan, and positions open; and Officer reports.</p>

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B. NEA Board of DIRECTORS Linda Somo	<p>Written report in Brd. Packet. Director Linda Somo reported on her lobbying activities on Capitol Hill: NCLB spending, Opposition to “academic bill of rights”, support for GPO/WEP, and Support for State Children’s Health Ins. Program.</p> <p>There is a Retired Read Across America Award Program. AEA-Ret. state-wide activities recognition: \$250.00 to buy children’s books. See <i>This Active Life</i> for more info. or contact Linda Somo, lasomo@orbitelcom.com</p> <p>Read Across America is Mar. 3 this Year. AEA Ed. Day at Capital is Mar. 5 this year.</p> <p>The AEA-Ret. Exec. Brd will attend the NEA-Retired East Regional Conference in Williamsburg, VA W, Th, Fri, April 2-4, 2008 (due to conflict of sched. with Wes. Regional Conf. dates held on same date as AEA-Delegate Convention in Mesa.)</p>
C. NEA-RETIRED ADVISORY COUNCIL Barbara Matteson	<p>No report.</p>
D. ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS John Campbell	<p>Written report in Board Packet. John Campbell reported that the AFL-CIO would like to create one million strong advocacy/activist roster to deal with blocks of issues and legislation including the following: Health Care issues, Donut Hole (prescription payments), Plan D Prescriptions. He included a “Facts Every Retiree Should Know About Care Reform” in today’s packet. Important information to read and know. He passed out an activist sign up card to each at meeting. To sign up, contact John Campbell: jscampbell@qwest.net, 623-692-6998.</p> <p>John will attend the West Regional Alliance Conference in Las Vegas.</p> <p>Linda Somo reported that during her talks with congress, she found that in certain states the SCHIP is used for adults, and until that is fixed some will continue to oppose it. That is not a problem in AZ, and only 2-3 states have this problem.</p>
D. AEA-Ret Liaison Mike Aicone	<p>No report</p>
12. ACTION ITEMS	
OLD BUSINESS Kathy Campbell	<p>Julie Horwin asked about the divestment resolution by the AEA Board regarding ASRS Fund. It was actually a resolution adopted at the last AEA Delegate Convention in Mesa. The history of this resolution was explained and Steve Ramos gave some examples of the minute connection to Darfur.</p>
NEW BUSINESS Kathy Campbell	<p>AEA Continuous Membership. Because NEA has now set up criteria to be followed in Continuous Membership Program for those who are retiring, and AEA-Ret. asked for a feasibility study, the AEA Finance and Resource Committee asked for clarification. Linda Somo will attend the next FRC meeting February 11.</p> <p>Connie Wittig volunteers for the Chrysalis, a shelter for abused women and their children. She took a donation last week and was told there is a desperate need for beds, tables, chairs and women's coats. For those that live in the valley, Connie will be happy to make the proper contacts if you have items to donate. msretmusaz@cox.net 602-971-0664</p>
14. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 14, 2008 10:00 AM NOTE THE CHANGE OF DAY: THURSDAY	
15. ADJOURNMENT/ LUNCH/Exchge	<p>President Campbell adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM</p>

Respectfully submitted,
 Julie Horwin, Recording Secretary
 Arizona Education Association-Retired