

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

1. Call to Order at 10:10 by President Horwin

Board members in attendance; Julie Horwin, Suzan Austin, Ken Freed, Steve Linder, John Campbell, Danny Barlow, Shirley Boswell, Ed Bufford, Marilyn Freed, Maryanne Goodluck, Liz Hendrickson, Luci Messing, Nancy Putman, Kathy Ramage-White, Steve Ramos, Susie Sommer, Jean Stephenson, Juan Zuniga. Chapter Chairs; Ted Coleman, Janie Hydrick, Ellen Shamah, Ellie Feldner, Michele Smith. Members; Renee Newman, Jan Nichols, Barbara Matteson, Gary Mehok, Tricia Roach. Guest: Jim Hall-Center for School Accountability, Andrew Morrill-AEA President. Staff; Mark Simons, Stacey Morley.

NOTE: Prior to the Approval of the Agenda, President Horwin asked for a moment of silence remembering our recently deceased members. She then welcomed new Board members, returning Board members, chapter chairs, committee chairs and introduced guests. This was followed by a review of the Board packet and a group activity which reinforced our Board norms. Executive Director Simons introduced AEA's new lobbyist, Stacey Morley and President Morrill brought us information about why AEA does not support the Diane Douglas recall.

2. Approval of Agenda with flexibility (Ramage-White/Hendrickson) **Approved**

3. Approval of the minutes of May 12, 2015. (K. Freed/Austin) **Approved**

4. Welcome to newly elected Board members: Cicero, Ramos, Zuniga, L. Wittig and continuing member Putman and re-elected vice president Austin. The updated Board Roster, Constitution and Bylaws, AEA-Retired calendar, and committee roster were reviewed.

Move the adoption of committee appointments, chairs, and coordinators, with the understanding that additional members may join committees during the year.

(Sommer/Putman) **Approved**

5. Membership Chair Boswell shared most recent membership data. Currently we have increased to 2150 members with 1608 using dues deduct. We have 36 more members than the end of last year and 58 new members (See printed report for more information.)

6. Membership Outreach chair, Putman shared that her committee had met during the summer and will be getting local retirement information from Nick shortly. Tomorrow's committee meeting will help determine the targets for this year.

7. Officers' Reports

President Horwin-The President presented the Board with an outline of her report that included much information. It included;

The President reported on the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting as well as the NEA-RA. She reported that The Retired donated over \$30,000 to the Fund for Public Education, of which AEA-Retired contributed almost \$6,000 through our representatives, J. Campbell, Matteson, Horwin and K. Freed.

It was reported that AEA had named several members to AEA committees. She asked us to gather that information. Thus far, we know the following; Messing-Government Relations,

Zuniga and K. Freed-FRC, Moy-Elections, Barlow-Social Justice Task Force, and Linder-Public Policy. As more become known, please forward the information to the President. (Note: Nancy Putman, via Judy Moy emailed a list of AEA-Retired Members appointed to AEA committees.)

President Horwin wrote a membership organizing grant that will include many of the things that we already accomplish. Included will be a mailing, 2 lunches, ads in the Advocate, a survey and the Maricopa Mixer. We will hear by early November if the grant is approved.

The President shared the plan for tomorrow's Committee Day. It will include committee meetings by 4 committees and a power point detailing the concerns around possible ASRS pull-outs by higher education and the impact on our members.

Of necessity, districts are recruiting retired teachers back to the classroom. Unfortunately, they are being less than honest in telling people of their job assignment. When it becomes apparent to the retiree that they cannot handle the assignment and they go to leave, they are fined up to \$2,500 to break their contract. Our President has stepped in, in several situations, to help out our members.

Asked Board member M. Freed to assist in gathering funds that will be used to assist Marion Pickens in the grief over the loss of her husband, Peter.

Shared that our liaison, Mike Aicone, will be retiring in December after 29 years with AEA. He is currently helping us change our fiscal year from end of April, beginning of May to end of May, beginning of June.

President Horwin shared information about the Sick and Safe Days Campaign in Tempe/Tucson. If enacted, employees will be permitted to use up to 2 days of personal leave for things like illness of kids, taking family members to doctors' appointments, etc. This has been found to be cost-effective in other cities. The Tempe campaign representatives will be Hydrick and Feldner. We are still looking for Tucson member assistance.

Vice-President Austin-Shared that the grant she wrote is modeled after the Florida MORE program. If funded, this grant will provide AEA-Retired with the names and addresses of retirees from other states who reside in Arizona. The goal is to make these individuals aware of political positions taken by our organization so that they can assist us with their vote and their activism. This is not a membership recruitment tool.

The Vice-President thanked those who helped set up in the morning and asked the Board to sign up for clean-up duty after each meeting.

She shared that she will be circulating the birthday list to make certain that it is accurate, and reminded us that pre-meeting food is pot luck and invited everyone to bring food.

Liaison Aicone-Not in attendance

AEA Director Moy-Not in attendance. Items from the AEA board meeting were included in our packet.

NEA Director J. Campbell-The NEA Board has not met since our last meeting, and meets the end of September. It was reported that Executive Committee member, George Sheridan, will be the liaison to the retired.

Secretary K. Freed - read Thank you notes from Frank Sacco and the Latino Outreach Cadre.

Guest Jim Hall (Charter Schools Accountability)-shared some of his research on how charter schools are spending their money. An example is that administration is frequently double

that which is spent on instruction. He asked for volunteers to assist in ferreting out some more of the financial information.

8. Financials presented by Treasurer Linder.

Assets	\$61,196
Liabilities	\$16,530
Equity	\$44,564

(See written report for more information.)

Shared that the AEA-R donation to the Kinnaman Fund was more than the other states' combined contribution.

***J. Campbell made the Board aware that next month he would like an agenda item that indicates that the AEA-Retired will not accept charter school ads in any of our publications, whether paid or non-paid.

9. ASRS

Chairperson Ramos shared that meetings are limited during the summer with none in the month of July. He also indicated that many of the districts are looking for ways to pass on the Alternative Contribution Rate (ACR) to substitutes rather than absorb it themselves. Much discussion was held relative to ASU's attempt to leave the ASRS.

It was noted that the ASRS is healthy, with \$76,000,000,000 in assets and at about 76% funded.

10. Political Action and Election Update

Matteson provided a written report and asked us to call the Governor and tell him that he needs to honor the court's decision and authorize paying education the money that has been awarded. NOW!!

Asked that we help districts pass their bond and over-ride elections.

Informed us that the Retired passed 2 NBI's at the RA which is most unusual.

***J. Nichols reported on Classroom's First. This Governor appointed group is weighted towards charter schools and wants to simplify the funding formula, wants student-centered learning priorities and incentives for excellence. This design would syphon additional moneys from traditional public schools.

11. Chapter Chair Reports

- **Southeast Arizona (Rosen-printed)** the next meeting will be at 5:30 Sept. 14, at the Peacocok Restaurant in Sierra Vista. Our holiday meeting will be at the new restaurant in the Windemere Hotel at 5:30 on October 31.
- **Greater Phoenix (Smith)** The chapter will meet next on the 4th Tuesday of Sept., Nov., Jan., March and May at The Beatitudes, 1610 W. Glendale Ave., Phoenix. The speaker this month will be Jim Hall.
- **Tucson (Linder/Matteson/Freed)** reported that they met on 8/18 and will meet again on 9/15 at the TEA office. The new chair is Marilyn Calhoun. Noted that Luci Messing is being given an award by the Democrats of Greater Tucson.
- **East Valley/Mesa (Hydrick-printed)** the next meeting is 9/16 and the speaker will be Dr. Sarah Riles. Meetings are at 63 E. Main St. in Mesa. We were presented with a full year's calendar
West Valley/Glendale (Sommer) The next

- meeting will be on October 1 at 4:00 at the Iron Works Restaurant. E-sweg will present at this meeting.
- **Yavapai (Coleman)** a core group will meet on Sept. 17 to plan for the next year. An emphasis on recruiting more members. Northern Arizona/Reservation (Goodluck) The next meeting is Sept. 18 at the Junction Restaurant at 6:00.
 - **Scottsdale/Paradise Valley (Austin-printed)** The chapter's next meeting will be on 9/14 at 11:00 at Denny's at 3315 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale. We will continue donating books to the Lodestar Learning Center for the homeless and money to the Jack Kinnaman Foundation at each meeting. This year's meetings are 11/19, 1/18, 3/21 and 5/16.
 - **Kyrene (Shamah/Feldner)** The next meeting is Sept. 30 with Jan Nichols as the speaker. It will be at Mimi's, located at Chandler Blvd ant the 101 at 4:30.
 - **Flagstaff – Tricia Roach** President Horwin introduce Tricia and noted that Tricia was asked to begin a chapter in Flagstaff. Tricia is now the Chapter Chair of Flagstaff.

***NOTE: Thank you to Sally, Janie, and Suzan for providing written reports

12. Alliances and Coalitions

a. Arizona Alliance for Retired Americans (J. Campbell)

Hydrick passed out a flyer about the upcoming AZ Alliance for Retired Americans Convention on Sept. 30. Members were invited to attend and 9 indicated they would be attending.

b. Arizona retirement Security Coalition (Horwin)

Indicated that Ramos has produced and will present a power point at AEA-Retired Committee Day to share the current ASRS threat. This will be used as a tool to get others to volunteer as presenters.

c. Arizona Wins Labor Table (Horwin)

Reported that in the 2012 election, more Republicans voted, but the Democrats were more united in how they voted. Also shared that Goddard has started a new group called "Voices for Arizona." There has been an "Aim High" campaign in North Carolina and Colorado that was very successful. All progressive organizations messaged the same aims for increasing pay of education employees. All candidates are asked to share what if they were in favor of increasing education funding for this purpose. That campaign is currently being considered for Arizona.

13. Half-back Raffle of \$26 was won by Mehok.

14. Adjournment at 2:17. Next meeting is October 13 at headquarters.

**Notes **

Lunch was a working lunch with a 10 minute break to get food