

AARSPA Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2025, 10:00 A.M.
MRSPA Conference Room

Attendees: Virginia Crespo, Linda Poole, Gail Matthews, Karlie Everett, Dixie Stack, Susan Baugher, Kate Gilbert, Ray Bibeault, Rick Wiles, Kay Stawas, Millie Gardner, Leslie Schell, Marge Smith, Bob Kanach, Brenda Gibson, Max Muller, Carla Duls, Anthony Anzalone, Tillie Barckley, Zetta Hart

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M. by Co-President Anthony Anzalone, followed by the pledge to the flag led by Rick Wiles.

Recording Secretary

Minutes from January 9, 2025, were approved with a motion from Dixie Stack with a second from Kate Gilbert.

Corresponding Secretary

Brenda Gibson shared a summary of correspondences she has been sending out for individuals in the school system who were honored for their performance. There have been many individuals who are honored in our school system by local and national groups.

Treasurer's Report

Max Muller gave the report for our current budget that included \$25,756.32 carryover from the Scholarship Fund. There is currently as of March 31, 2025, \$48,086.32 available for FY25. Five scholarships were paid with check #3188 on December 24, 2024, for these scholars. Mr. Muller shared that next year there will be enough funds for scholarships to be \$6,000. The executive board approved this change. Other small changes in the budget were noted and approved.

Committee Reports

AARSPA Voices in Melody

Rick Wiles shared the practice schedule and future performance dates for Voices in Melody.

Community Service/Consumer Education

No Report

Educator/Employee of the Month Committee

Recognitions of the Educator and the Employee of the Month continue to be a highlight at Bd Meetings. AACPS Bd Members get great joy in seeing the surprise looks from winners amid the warm welcome from family, friends, colleagues and those in attendance, as the recipients are announced, and are called forward to receive their Plaque and Certificate. These honorees are chosen by the AARSPA Selection Committee, Oct - May.

Free School Museum/Maintenance Committee

Karlie Everett reported that 70 adults and 45 children were in attendance for Maryland Day 2025 celebration at the Free School. Open House visits will begin on April 13. Crofton Elementary requested a visit to the school for 110 students that could not be accommodated. Brochures were taken to Chesapeake Children's Museum. There is a need more brochures for distribution at a variety of places. The AACPS print shop is working with us on providing a new format for the brochure which will be a rack card. The tree in front of The Free School received a designation of Champion Tree. A sign will be created to signify this award. Bob Kanach will place two candles in the windows of the school on April 18-20th to recognize Paul Revere's history. He will also photograph the building with window candles. Don Bailey will plan for the 250th celebration for us on February 22, 2026.

Historian and Editor of the Informer Committee

Carla Duls reported that the deadline for the August Informer is July 21, 2025. Please submit any articles, trips, scholarship winners, and employees of the month by the deadline date. Deadlines for future Informers are: July 21, 2025, September 22, 2025, December 19, 2025, January 16, 2026, and April 10, 2026. Ms. Duls thanked

everyone for submitting articles and pictures for our newsletter.

Legislative Committee

Virginia Crespo reported that MRSPA supported 13 bills. She summarized several of these bills that passed: drug bill passed to support all Marylanders, the Community School Center, Blueprint is funded for 3 years, and tele-health doctor visits are now permanent. Another special session will occur to address the Federal Government cuts. AARP is fighting to stop the “no phone calls” edict from the federal government from individuals to Social Security. The wellness checks bill passed to include more than just phone calls.

Membership Committee

Leslie Schell reported that The Eastern Shore meeting on April 11, 2025, will be attended by 60 individuals. This is 44% of the eastern shore membership. There is new ownership for the restaurant and they are willing to accommodate the group.

The new retiree list is due in July. The committee will begin sending out information once it is received. A meet and greet breakfast for new retirees is scheduled at the Elks Lodge in Severna Park for September 22, 2025. Linda Poole assisted the membership committee with the memorial list for our next luncheon.

Pre-retirement Committee

Susan Baugher reported she is working with the BOE on the retiree list. The BOE approved a letter to be sent out on May 1st. A meeting is scheduled for AARSPA to meet with retirees on May 22, 2025, at the Severna Park Library. Leslie Schell will show our PowerPoint to attendees. Tony Anzalone shared that he and Phyllis Cherry met with new teachers at their start of school year orientation. It was suggested that the group purchase a tablecloth covering with our name on it for future events that we attend. Dixie Stack made a motion to purchase this tablecloth and a second came from Kate Gibson. The funds will be taken from the luncheon funds.

Program Committee

Dixie Stack reminded us that the next luncheon would include the memorial service and Voices in Melody. Ms. Stack requested suggestions for next year's programs.

Publicity Committee

The MRSPA Public Relations Committee recently completed an annual review of Local Associations' Websites and Facebook Pages. Debbie Ahalt is happy to report that AARSPA's website was one of the best! Contact information was present, calendars and newsletters were present and up to date, links to other websites were available and easy to access. From dated material to resources and forms, everything on the website was extremely user-friendly. Great job, Sharyn and Website team!

Getting press for our organization has become increasingly difficult, but we have a Publicity Machine, and her name is Karlie Everitt! What she does at the Free School and the press she gets is phenomenal! Thank you, Karlie—Great job!

Ray Bibeault suggested we have links on our website to membership applications and the names needed to contact our state pension system.

Raffle Committee

No Report

Remembrance/Sunshine Committee

Millie Gardner shared that 49 members will be remembered, but all names will be thoroughly researched before the luncheon.

Scholarship Committee

Tillie Barckley reported that the Ram's Head fundraiser was \$101. Killarney House fundraiser is June 17, 2025. We will receive \$10 for each meal. Brian Boru will be scheduled for a date in September. We had 12 applicants for the scholarships this year. They will be awarded on April 30, 2025.

Trips and Travel Committee

Kay Stawas and Gail Matthews shared that the DC Cherry Blossom trip went well. Don't forget the next trips!

- September 6th (Saturday) - **The Buddy Holly Story** - Lancaster Pennsylvania
 - Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre with a Buffet lunch
 - The story of the last few years of Buddy Holly's life
 - Will spotlight some of his famous songs such as
 - That'll be the Day
 - Peggy Sue
 - La Bamba
 - Oh Boy – etc.
 - Cost is \$129
- December 4th (Thursday) - **Stone Gables Estate Holiday** - Elizabethtown, PA
 - Christmas buffet dinner
 - Special holiday show
 - Short drive to the National Christmas Center
 - Self-guided tour
 - 18,000 square feet of vintage Christmas decor
 - Replicated store fronts decked out in 1950's Christmas themes
 - Cost is \$170

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

No New Business

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 P.M.

Dates to Remember

Fri., April 11, 2025	Eastern Shore Luncheon
Sun., April 13, 2025	Free School Open House Begins
Tues., May 6, 2025	MRSPA Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon, Turf Valley Resort, 2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City, MD
Th., May 8, 2025	Business Meeting and Luncheon, Two Rivers Restaurant, Lake Shore Plaza off Mountain Road, Registration, 9:45 AM and meeting at 10:30 AM
Th., June 12, 2025	Executive Board Meeting, The Free School, 1298 Lavall Drive, Davidsonville, MD, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Sat., September 6, 2025	The Buddy Holly Story - Lancaster Pennsylvania
Mon., September 22, 2025	Meet and Greet New Retirees, Elks Lodge, Severna Park
Th., December 4, 2025	Stone Gables Estate Holiday - Elizabethtown, PA

Respectfully
Submitted,
Zetta Hart
Recording Secretary