

AARSPA Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Board of Education, Center 2B, 10:00 AM

Attending: Tillie Barckley, Rick Wiles, Charles Gable, Bob Kanach, Mille Gardner, Karlie Everett, Leslie Schell, Susan Baugher, Max Muller, Gail Matthews, Kay Stawas, Phyllis Cherry, Deb Ahalt, Dixie Stack, Virginia Crespo, Carolyn Smith, Brenda Hurbanis, Lucy Travers and Sharyn Doyle.

First names will be used in these notes.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Charlie, followed by the flag pledge led by Rick.

Recording Secretary

The minutes from our October 6, 2022 meeting were referenced with no corrections. Phyllis made a motion to accept the minutes and Lucy seconded it. The group voted unanimously to accept the minutes as published. They will be sent for publication on our website.

Treasurer's Report

Max reported overall we are doing very well. In the area of membership we are down about 164, yet we often disagree with MRSPA and need to consider our locals when MRSPA does not. Leslie reminded us also about Emeritus and the other possible discrepancies in her member count vs. the one Max has. Overall, very little has been spent in the first half of this fiscal year so perhaps we can budget for lesser amounts next fiscal year. We have carry over for scholarships so we can easily pay for our 4 scholarship winners at \$5000 each and still carry over about \$4000 for next year. He also reviewed the Free School fund and Gunson Funds, both doing very well. (Refer to handout distributed).

Discussion ensued about our tax submission and Max confirmed Fiscal Year 2021 tax form was submitted. Max also warned that the next treasurer may not wish to do taxes so we may need to pay someone. We have not had a true audit in years and our bylaws say every two years so we need to move on that. Brenda and others had suggestions and are investigating resources for us to use for next fiscal year taxes and audit.

Rick also added Voices in Melody also received a \$250 donation and that would be added to the report.

A motion was made by Dixie to accept the budget report. A second was made by Tillie. The group voted unanimously to accept the treasurer's report.

Corresponding Secretary

No report

Committee Reports

AARSPA Voices in Melody

Rick reported the fall season was finished with 30-35 members performing at concerts and new season will begin February with Leslie now joining.

By-Laws Committee

Dixie distributed a set of bylaws with modifications and reviewed each one. Most changes dealt with terms like President now being President/Co-Presidents, corrected General Membership Meeting/Luncheon dates, consistency with Executive Board vs Executive Committee terms and COVID. Refer to attachment *sections. A more lengthy discussion was held for page 8, Article VII Section 3 and new language was developed. Vote was taken to approve these amendments and voted unanimously to approve. Brenda made the motion and Susan seconded the motion. These amendments will be presented at the February General Member's Meeting/Luncheon and final approval vote will be taken at our May General Members' Meeting/Luncheon.

Community Service

Phyllis reported we now have 4 little libraries throughout the county and MD City wants a little library now. Rick and Bob do the installation and responded they will need to wait until April.

Scholastic Warehouse was contacted again and so far they will not be opening it back up to volunteers who can earn books for schools. Reminder: Books must be on the approved list.

Therefore, the committee will now focus on residents of Assisted Living and Nursing Homes of which go in and out of business all the time and residents must be moved. The AA Dept. of Aging identified 5 facilities that are the neediest and their needs will be identified and places prioritized for our future collections.

Consumer Education Committee

Phyllis also reported that MRSPA is sponsoring a webinar on January 18th at 10:00 a.m. by the OASIS Senior Advisory group on Navigating Senior Community Living. More information on the MRSPA website.

Educator/Employee of the Month Committee

Tony was absent and left this report:

Requests are still being made for NOMINATIONS. In addition to emails, personal contacts are being encouraged.

The following Notice was sent to the Board Office informing them of the death of JOHN SALWACH, a 10 year plus Member of the ED/EM of the Month Selection Committee: "On Dec 29, the AARSPA SELECTION COMMITTEE lost a valued member. JOHN SALWACH died in the early morning hours at Baltimore Washington Regional Medical Center. When John retired from his position as a Counselor at Severna Park High School, he joined AARSPA. Volunteered, and became a Member of The Selection Committee. For over 10 years, John helped chose the *Board of Education EDUCATOR and the EMPLOYEE of the MONTH*. He was a colleague, a team player, and a friend, and will be missed." John's obit was printed in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* on Jan 5, 2023.

Free School Museum/Maintenance Committee

Karlie reported on celebration of MD Day from 3/31-4/2/2023 with the Free School Open House on 4/1/2023. A recently established working relationship with Chesapeake Crossroads will also help with planning MD Day activities.

In honor of the 300th anniversary, many special activities will be planned. Monies will be used for this event from the Free School fund.

Karlie also announced new docents joined and Carolyn Smith is one of them. More are always welcome and the usual tour schedule will be honored this year. The building will be prepared for the new season thanks to Bob Kanach, John Hammond and family, etc.

Historian and Editor of the Informer Committee

No report except the deadline for the February Informer is Jan 27th. Carla has the basic outline from last year's February issue...Main difference is the Florida information.

Legislative Committee

Sharyn reported the Legislative Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31st as an in-person/virtual event. The in-person workshop will be held at **Comfort Inn Conference Center**, 4500 Crain Highway, Bowie, MD 20716 with proof of vaccinations needed for entry. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and conclude by 2 p.m.

New legislative session is January 11- April 10, 2023.

Virginia reported there are 48 new members of the 177 member legislature. Only a small number of bills are already prefiled. Most time will be spent on the economy, cannabis and gun related laws. Abortion, child abuse reporting time expansion, senior scamming prevention and the Blue Print for Education are also focus topics.

Membership Committee

Leslie reported that contact has been made with many of the retirees that MRSPA designated as "cancelled." She presented several future recruitment ideas: Library meet and greets across the county, posters and newsletters in each school, Eastern Shore event, etc. Funds for these events are available and membership is our focus. Board members were very agreeable to the ideas proposed.

Leslie reported the first Eastern Shore event will be scheduled for April 13 or 20, 2023, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. with a luncheon fare menu. Bob also shared facilities are still being investigated with lunch and rental space for around 25 with a cost no higher than our usual \$38.

Nominating Committee

No report

Pre-retirement Committee

Susan reported there will be a meeting on January 23rd for Pre-Retirement session scheduled in April. Our brochure is now given out and HR is more cooperative with us and focus is for employees who may retire from now – 3 years out.

Program Committee

Dixie reported Chanel Compton, Executive Director of the Banneker-Douglas Museum of DC, will be a guest speaker. Wanda Twigg from MRSPA at our February General Members' Meeting/Luncheon will also be attending.

Publicity Committee

No report.

Raffle Committee

No report.

Sunshine/Remembrance Committee

Mille reported there are 67 Emeritus Members now whose birthdays are celebrated with an annual birthday card sent. Linda Poole is handling the deaths...sending a card only after seeing an obituary for confirmation. Diane Rogers is handling the illness cards. Loraine Foster is our calligraphy expert who helps with addressing envelopes with a beautiful script. Mille also read a note from our Emeritus members who really appreciates the annual birthday card.

Scholarship Committee

Tillie reported that we are able to provide 4 scholarships at \$5000 each, committee is awaiting the packet of applications for review, and many donations are made in honor of family or friends who have died. She read several letters from past recipients, even one who has now changed her major. A recommendation was made by the Board to change the language of scholarships to "committed to" vs "interested in" becoming a teacher since it is not uncommon for recipients to change their major.

Trips and Travel Committee

Earlier in the meeting, Lucy welcomed Kay Stawas as new co-chair with Gail Matthews. Kay reported they are just gearing up and will move quickly.

MRSPA Update:

Legislative Workshop information) refer to Sharyn's section)

MRSPA Annual Business Meeting will be May 9th at the Valley Mansion in Cockeysville

MRSPA Raffle information is in the Informer

Old Business

Eastern Shore Meeting already discussed. Refer to membership section

Florida Gathering will be hosted by Bob and Lisa Wagner in the Venice area on March 21-22

New Business

New calendar was distributed and will be placed on the website when Eastern Shore event is finalized.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m. with a representative for the next group for the room out in the hall.

Dates to Remember

January 31, 2023	MRSPA Legislative Workshop at Comfort Inn Bowie or virtual
February 9, 2023	AARSPA General Memberships Meeting/Luncheon at Yellowfin Steak & Fish House – 9:45 a.m. registration/10:30 a.m. meeting
March 21-22, 2023	Florida Gathering in Venice/Sarasota
April 4, 2023	AARSPA Executive Board Meeting – 10 a.m. Board of Ed – Center 2A
May 9, 2023	MRSPA Annual Business Meeting at Valley Mansion Cockeysville
May 11, 2023	AARSPA General Memberships Meeting/Luncheon at Twin Rivers Restaurant

Respectfully submitted,
Sharyn Doyle
Assistant Recording Secretary