

ANNE ARUNDEL RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting

January 12, 2017

Center 2 A, BOE Building

Attendance: Barry Fader, Millie Gardner, Rosemary Biggart, Karlie Everett, Deborah Ahalt, Bob Kanach, Rick Wiles, John Salwach, Anthony (Tony) Anzalone, Tillie Barckley, Carla Duls, Charlie Gable, Carol Kirby, Virginia Crespo, Phyllis Cherry, and Sharyn Doyle

** Throughout this document and future meeting notes, Board members will be referred to by their first name. Should there be 2 people with the same first name, their last name initial will also be used.

Call to Order: President Barry Fader called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Pledge to the Flag: Charlie led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guest Speaker: Dr. George Arlotto, Superintendent

Barry reviewed the agenda and focused on our guest speaker. Concerns about the funding for our health benefits and how we, as a Board, can help support the Superintendent with his budget request were discussed. Several other Board members also shared their concerns and remarked on past history about AARSPA involvement in health care meetings.

Dr. Arlotto arrived and discussed the budget hearing process, the history of the health care funds and the County Council's redirection of \$18.4 million health care funds to salaries, the extreme need for full funding back to health care costs, and how we, as a Board, can help advocate for the full funding of his budget, especially at the public hearings. Other processes are in place to help with the funding such as negotiating with Blue Cross/Blue Shield to reduce fees, continuing awareness of County Executive and County Council of the urgency of the funding and the past history of health benefits funding redirection.

Several other topics were brought up such as funding for the Challenge Grant for Annapolis High and the need for a new Old Mill High building. Dr. Arlotto responded to these issues. Only the AEL stipend will be funded as part of the Challenge Grant and Crofton will have a new high school before Old Mill due to land, costs and political influence.

Minutes of the October 6, 2106 Meeting: Minutes from the October 6, 2016 Executive Board meeting were reviewed. Sharyn thanked everyone who responded to her email asking for their feedback on the draft of the minutes. Bob made a motion to accept the minutes and Virginia seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Rosemary Biggart distributed the Treasurer's Report. Attention was directed to Line 8A Excess Scholarship Cont-FY 2016, identifying the excess monies carried forward for this coming fiscal year. Her concern for AARSPA offering 4 scholarships versus 3 scholarships this year was shared. Tillie was consulted about current collections to date and her past experiences. Further discussion continued and agreement was reached to only offer 3 scholarships.

Barry referred to Line 28 Senior Hall of Fame excess monies of \$255. He suggested the monies be used to pay for 10 extra AARSPA members to attend the USM Legislative Forum on January 25th at a cost of only \$15 each. A few Board members committed to joining the group and others were encouraged to contact Barry if interested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AARSPA Chorus “Voices in Melody”– Rick Wiles announced they performed 8 holiday concerts and are scheduling now for the spring. There are now 30 members and more are needed. Rick will speak about the Chorus at the February luncheon. He will continue to try and obtain more members for his chorus and for AARSPA. The Chorus is also scheduled to perform at the May 18th luncheon at Renditions. Updates on several members who are ill was also provided.

Corresponding Secretary– Brenda Gibson: No report at this time

Recording Secretary & Webmaster- Sharyn Doyle: No report at this time

Educator/Employee of the Month–Tony Anzalone: Tony reported that now there are many excellent candidates and he shared the example of the current Educator of the Month nominee, without mentioning her name.

Free School– Karlie Everett: Karlie distributed 2 copies of the visitor book analysis and reported a consistent number of visitors. Also reported was another Schoolmarm is being recruited, Artifact displays are up, exhibit cards are done and need to be placed. Bob shared the recent request by Lavall Community Member for AARSPA and AACPS to help with new storm drain that would need access through the Free School. However, now the County has begun the construction of a new storm drain. Bob will continue to monitor the situation and keep our Board and the representative from the Board of Education informed.

Going Green– Bob reported 1100 emails were sent out with the new issue of the Informer. Six hundred (600) were opened and only 500 actually opened the Informer Newsletter. This represents a great improvement. The upcoming Florida Get-together trip sheet was distributed and briefly reviewed.

Historian & Editor of the “Informer”– Carla Duls: Carla reported she welcomes more entries for the AARSPA Archival notebook, especially programs of events where a member attended representing AARSPA. The February newsletter entries are due January 26th and last year’s contents were reviewed for suggested update entries and more fillers welcomed.

Legislative Committee- Virginia Crespo: Virginia reinforced the USM Legislative Forum event meeting, briefly discussed a few drafted bills that involve seniors. We were also reminded that February 16th is the date of the AARSPA sponsored luncheon for the Anne Arundel County delegation to the state legislature and it provides our members a chance to converse with our delegates and senators. (It also happens to be the same date as our snow date for the AARSPA Feb 9th meeting at the Blue Dolphin.)

Membership Chairperson- Carol Kirby: Carol reported that it is time for a new membership directory and the need for members to update their information will be presented at the Feb. luncheon. A new brochure or revising just the one page of our brochure was discussed and agreed that only the one membership form page will be revised. We have 1849 paying member with 40 additional Emeritus members.

Pre-Retirement Committee- John Salwach: John reported April 15th is the next session with the location yet to be determined.

Program Committee- Charles Gable: Charlie reported that at our February General Membership meeting, a representative from AARP will be speaking with us. Doug Hart's Combo from the Crabtowne Big Band will also be our entertainment during lunch. The year's Teacher of the Year is Katrina Griffin from North County High. Katrina and Janet Williams, the MRSPA Regional Representative, have been asked to attend our May meeting at the Blue Dolphin. Our annual memorial service will also be held at the May luncheon meeting. Also at the May luncheon meeting, we will have the induction of the 2017-2018 Executive Board by Fay Miller, President of MRSPA. Barry requested Board members to notify him if they will be remaining in their current position for the upcoming year since officer induction is approaching.

Staff Photographer- John Hammond: John was absent and Barry reported John has created a CD highlighting events of this year and it will be shown at our up-coming luncheon.

Publicity Committee- Deborah Ahalt: Debbie reported that she has been brainstorming ways to increase our publicity and requested we approve her setting up a Facebook page. Agreement was reached to do so.

Raffle Committee-Sandy Edmonds: No report at this time

Remembrance & Sunshine Committee- Millie Gardner: Millie reminded Board members that her last name is Gardner....Zipay is gone, and please continue to send announcements like deaths, anniversaries, etc.

Scholarship Committee- Tillie Barckley: A discussion was held earlier in the meeting about the scholarships. Tille also reminded us of the deadlines for the Scholarships...due date of February 2nd and final decision by March 20th. Thanks are extended to Deb Hardy and the Scholarship Committee. Tillie is now on the MRSPA Board also. Also, Tillie informed us raffle tickets available for MRSPA. Several other Board members also had MRSPA raffle tickets to sell.

Trips & Travel Committee- Lucy Travers: May 9th Monticello trip was reviewed.

United Seniors of Maryland- Virginia Crespo: Items discussed earlier in the meeting.

Old and New Business

Old Business -Barry briefly summarized survey results that were from the CAT-N luncheon.

New Business - Board members were requested to send their decisions into Barry about remaining in their positions for another year. Dates to Remember were also listed on the agenda and attention drawn to them by Barry.

Adjournment -Motions were made and vote taken with a unanimous vote to adjourn at 12:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharyn Doyle
Recording Secretary