

**Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon Minutes
May 12, 2022
Two Rivers Steak and Fish House, Pasadena, MD.**

Greetings, Overview, and Special Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Charlie Gable. Rick Wiles led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Gable spent the first several minutes reviewing the agenda and explaining the format of the meeting. President Gable welcomed the new members as well as the Emeritus Members

- **First Time Members in Attendance:** Don Counts, Betty Elder, Debbie Ray, Kathy Russo, Sharon Stratton, and Valerie Wesner.
- **Emeritus Members:** Ethel Bohle and Jeanne Hawes

Remembrance Ceremony

Millie Gardner and Linda Poole organized the memorial service. The Voices in Melody opened the service with a song, "Down to the River to Pray." An inspirational reading of "Gods Garden" followed. The names of the remembered members were read by Ms. Gardner and Ms. Poole placed a flower in the vase for each name. The membership in attendance repeated the names. The flowers will be displayed in the Board of Education building with the names of the individuals remembered. The chorus ended the ceremony with "May the Road Rise Up to Meet You."

Secretary's Report

Zetta Hart explained the new procedure for distribution of minutes. All executive board members get the drafts, and Sharyn Doyle will post them on our website for preview. Changes will be sent to Ms. Hart. The minutes from the February 10, 2022, were posted. One change was made prior to the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Marge Smith and seconded by Dixie Stack. The minutes were accepted by those in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

Max Muller presented the treasurer's report. He reviewed the new activity and expenditures since the last update. He stated that there are funds from last fiscal year that will carry over into the scholarship fund, but we will wait until the end of our fiscal year for totals. The scholarship fund is sacred and will be fully funded as a priority. Mr. Muller stated that we are in good shape financially as we approach the end of this fiscal year. Marge Smith made a motion to accept the report and Virginia Crespo seconded the motion. The membership accepted the report as presented.

Committee Reports:

AARSPA Voices in Melody

Rick Wiles gave a brief history of the chorus, which began in 1962, for the new attendees. Mr. Wiles stated that new members were always welcomed and a new director and back-up accompanist is needed. The Pascal Center sent a donation (\$150) for the concert that the chorus shared with their facility.

Community Service/ Consumer Education

Phyllis Cherry reported that many of the shelters we have supported would like full sized toiletries. We will continue to support the Food Bank and AA County Animal Care & Control. The books for new teachers had been sidelined due to COVID-19 and the Scholastic Warehouse being closed to volunteers. As part of Consumer Education, Ms. Cherry shared information on Brain Function that was published in the current addition of the AARP Magazine.

Free School Museum

Karlie Everett gave a brief history of the Free School for new attendees. She shared that Robert Kanach handles the maintenance and cleaning of the school, while she trains the docents and coordinates the scheduled tours. She thanked the individuals who helped with the cleaning on April 20th. Open House of the facility usually happens April-August, but this year will just be June, July, and August. A new sign will not need to be purchased for the Maryland Day Weekend open house next year as this year's sign was not dated, and included a design that will be generic enough to reuse. COVID Protocols for visitation at the Free School will continue to follow those of school system. There is a need for more docents that will be trained and given talking points. She reminded the membership about the virtual tour that is posted on-line. Ms. Everett asked that we save the date, October 26, 2023, for the 300-year celebration of the Free School. She will need assistance from the membership with planning the event and supporting the Free School on the day of celebration. Ms. Everett was invited and attended the Grand Reopening of the Historic Annapolis Museum. Lyndra Marshall borrowed for research on Rosenwald Schools. She will continue to digitize and use our materials for her film documentary.

Membership

The membership report was given by Marge Smith. Our organization is the second largest in Maryland. We are picking up some new members. She shared the results of a survey gathering information on the possible Eastern Shore meeting. It was a positive response and the plans will be made for meeting to be held on the Eastern Shore in April of 2023.

Remembrance Committee

Millie Gardner reminded the group about the birthday drawing and encouraged members having birthdays in April, May, and June to add the names to the drawing for prizes. Ms. Gardner shared a member's family situation occurring on May 16th. She asked that we send cards and keep this person in our prayers.

Scholarship Committee

Tillie Barckley provided the committee report. She thanked Tony Anzalone, and Sharyn Doyle for their assistance with the selection of the four scholarship winners. She introduced one of them who was in attendance with her mother. She reminded us of the fundraiser at Brian Boru from noon until 10 PM on June 15, 2022.

Trips and Travel

Lucy Travers reported that her committee has planned a trip for October 12, 2023 to Romney, W.Va. September 7th is the deadline for registration. Information will be in the Informer. A trip to Toby's Dinner Theater is scheduled for December 7, 2022. The show will be A Wonderful Life. Information will appear in the Informer.

Election of Officers

Rick Wiles introduced the slate of officers and asked for any nominations from the floor. As there were no changes or additions to the slate, George Denny was asked to install the officers. Co-Presidents, Debbie Ahalt and Charlie Gable continue in this capacity for this fiscal year.

- Co-Presidents Elect: Sharyn Doyle and Brenda Hurbanis
- Recording Secretary: Zetta Hart
- Treasurer: Max Mueller
- Assistant Treasurer: Bob Kanach
- Corresponding Secretary: Brenda Gibson

MRSPA Updates and Greetings

George Denny congratulated Carla Duls on her new position as President of MRSPA. Carla assured the group she would continue doing the AARSPA newsletter. Mr. Denny also reported that AARSPA

had three tables at the recent MRSPA business meeting. He thanked our group for its continued support.

Old Business

No old business

New Business

The Proposed Budget for 2022-2023 was presented by Max Muller. He thanked his committee for their dedication to the task. The proposed budget is based on 1,635 members. He explained that our \$15.00 dues is shared as \$5.00 to Scholarship, \$1.00 to The Free School, and the remainder is then utilized to fund the other operating costs. The scholarship totals for the proposed budget will be decided at the close of 2021-2022 fiscal year. Mr. Muller explained that there is money in our checking account that will be transferred to the operating budget. Millie Gardner made a motion to approve the proposed budget and Dixie Stack seconded it. The membership voted to accept the 2022-2023 budget.

The scholarship awarding ceremony on May 16th.

Announcement of a farewell for Dr. Arlotto by the 21st Century Foundation is on June 27, 2022.

Good news was shared by the co-presidents. The State Retirement System announced our COLA's for the coming year. Retirees will see the increase in their Pension benefits the end of July, 2022.

- **Employee's and Teacher's Pension System:** 3% on portion on allowance based on creditable service earned before 7-1-2021 and 2.5% on the portion earned on or after 7-1-2011
- **Old System:** COLA is 4.698% (except for bi-furcated payees who will receive 4,698 on the allow based on creditable service earning before they elected to bi-furcate and 3% on the portion after)

Lunch was served

Adjournment: A motion was made that the meeting be adjourned at 1:23 PM. The meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Dates To Remember	
June 9, 2022	Executive Board Meeting, 10:00 AM, Free School
June 15, 2022	Scholarship Fundraiser at Brian Boru, Noon until 10:00 PM
July 14, 2022	Executive Board Meeting, AACPS Board of Education, Center 2A, 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Respectfully submitted
Zetta Hart
Recording Secretary