

AARSPA Annual Business Meeting
Thursday, November 12, 2020
Renditions Golf Course 12/10/20 Review, 12/24/20 Final

Attending: Tillie Barckley, Shirley Brooks, Virginia Crespo, Millie Gardner, Nancy Horne, Bob Kanach, Max Muller, Mary Overholser, Linda Poole, Dennis Roncroni, Leslie Schell, and Rick Wiles

Rick Wiles called the meeting to order at 10:32am followed by the pledge to the flag. He thanked those present for attending and stated the importance of holding this business meeting. He mentioned that the executive board and various committees have met by Zoom and that it may become necessary to hold the next general meeting (February 11, 2021) by Zoom as well. AARSPA has purchased the use of Zoom for up to 100 people. For this meeting, he mentioned that COVID-19 safety masks need to be worn throughout the meeting and that social distancing practiced. Temperatures were taken as each member present arrived and all were in the "safe zone." Rick also purchased face shields for the members present.

It was noted that there were no emeritus or new members present so introductions were not needed.

Zetta Hart was not able to attend this meeting, so Rick asked everyone to review the minutes from the February 13, 2020 luncheon meeting. Mary Overholser made the motion to accept the minutes as written and that motion was seconded by Tillie Barckley. All present agreed with the motion.

Treasurer's Report

Max Muller reviewed the treasurer's report for both the association and the Free School accounts stating that there has been minimal action because of the COVID-19. Millie Gardner made the motion to accept the report as presented and it was seconded by Linda Poole. All present were in favor of accepting the report as given.

The committee reports were given if the chair was present and for those not present, the President included in the agenda the executive board report as noted below.

Community Service/Consumer Education Committee

In their executive committee reports, Phyllis Cherry and Zetta Hart reported on the progress of AARSPA's Little Free Library project. The Park Elementary School's library is installed and open to the community. The Ferndale Early Learning Center's library will be installed on November 14, 2020-(Completed). Dixie Stack has books to add to our stockpile for replenishing the libraries as needed. Pictures appeared in *The Infomer* and on Facebook for AARSPA members to view. Carla Duls reported on the Virtual Food Drive. Monetary donations have been given by several members. This drive will end on November 30, 2020. The Alzheimer's Walk is collecting donations. Participants had the option of walking in their community or attending a walk at the

Free School on October 18, 2020 at 1:00pm. A second group walked at the Anne Arundel Community College.

Educator/Employee of the Month Committee

In his executive board report, Tony Anzalone reported that as of October 8, 2020, the Board of Education presentations for the Educator and Employee of the Month awards are still on hold. However, preliminary and brief discussions regarding resuming the activity have begun.

Historian and Editor of the Informer Committee

In her executive board report, Carla reported that there was no news from the Historian. The next deadline for submitting articles for *The Informer* is January 4, 2021. Carla would like some human-interest stories to post.

Free School Museum Committee

Bob Kanach reported that John Hammond repaired the sign in front of the building. Although AARSPA offered to pay for the repairs, John refused to take any payment. Bob continues to work on the grounds around the building and has spot cleaned the interior to keep the cobwebs down.

Membership Committee

Leslie Schell reported that we have had 169 of 180 local renewals that have been received. We also have received 25 new members. She reminded those present that AARSPA does send the newsletter for one year to the newly retired AACPS employees who have given permission to the board to release their contact information. Letters have also been sent to each of the 178 people inviting them to join. She reported that she and Marge Smith have been going through the directory line by line to verify contact information and to update. This has involved making calls, sending letters and working closely with MRSPA. It was noted that the members who have a change of contact information tend not to inform AARSPA or MRSPA of the changes and that is especially true for those who receive the e-newsletter. The directory may not be ready for publication until 2021.

Leslie shared that since we cancelled the Florida meeting this year, we may want to consider holding one on the eastern shore once the COVID-19 pandemic subsides. We have a significant number of members living in the region and such a move might encourage them to become more active in the association.

Leslie reported that there was a meeting with MRSPA on November 11, 2020, to discuss the declining membership situation and that MRSPA is looking at partnering with AMBA to assist with additional strategies to recruit, retain and regain membership. The use of membership cards that have no expiration date until the person withdraws or death occurs was discussed. Leslie stated that she sent out letters to members who held both MRSPA and AARSPA memberships but had not renewed. They were informed of the option to join AARSPA alone. Renewal forms were included with the letters. These letters also described activities that the association does to benefit them or that they could become more involved.

Lastly, Leslie wanted to express her appreciation to Carol Kirby who handled membership singlehandedly for years. She thanked Bob Kanach for his efforts to assist with the membership updates. She also expressed her appreciation for the help that Marge Smith has given her by coming to her house and working with her on the directory.

Pre-retirement Committee

In his executive board report, John Salwach reported that there were no updates and that any pre-retirement activities are on hold because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Legislative Committee

Virginia Crespo stated that the Legislative Oversight Committee held a Zoom meeting to look at the critical needs of nursing homes, assisted living facilities and long-term care information going to the legislature. She stated that there are going to be obvious budget issues but that the money will be there, and that the legislative committee must work diligently to make sure the money is spent properly and effectively. In her executive board report, Virginia shared that the \$10 million grant from the Federal Government was distributed in thirds to non-public schools, higher education and K-12 public schools for opening of schools. AARSPA and MRSPA continue to monitor the spending. It appears that during the coming legislative session, lobbyists will not be allowed to enter the building and that Zoom meetings will be the way that our membership will be able to dialogue with the legislators.

Virginia indicated that the annual MRSPA Legislative workshop will most likely be a Zoom meeting which she thinks will result in better attendance by both the membership and the legislators and other invited guests. Although she could not recall the exact date, she thought that it would be around January 2 or 3, 2021.

Publicity Committee

Debbie Ahalt, in her executive board report stated that she continues to publicize our news on Facebook. She stated it would be helpful if we would reshare her posts because that gets the information out to others who may not be linked to the AARSPA on Facebook. The local newspapers do not seem interested in publishing our events. She continues to look for other ways to publicize our association's activities.

Scholarship Committee

Tillie Barckley reminded everyone that there were green envelopes on each table for anyone who wanted to make a donation to the Scholarship fund. She also had raffle tickets to sell for those interested. The Killarney Pub fundraiser was held on October 14, 2020 and was successful in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. She is looking to hold another fundraiser at Brian Boru in the Spring. Right now, it appears that we have enough money to support three scholarships and that the money will be due sometime in December, 2020.

Remembrance Committee

Millie Gardner reported that there were 74 members who passed away prior to May 1, 2020. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund in memory of a member may use the form found on the last page of *The Informer*.

Trips and Travel Committee

Bob Kanach reported for Lucy Travers that the deposit we put down with Gunther for the fall trip has not been returned. In dialogue with Gunther, Lucy learned that Gunther has not run any trips for quite some time and at this time does not have the money to reimburse us. It was hope that the deposit could be used for a future trip.

Voices in Melody Committee

Rick reported that the chorus is currently not meeting. He also reported that Judy Engelmeyer has indicated that she was stepping down as director of the chorus but would like to continue to sing with the group. The chorus is considering meeting by Zoom.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Remembrance Program

Millie Gardner and Linda Poole, with technical help from Rick Wiles with the music, presented the program remembering those members who passed away this past year up to May 1, 2020. After playing the song, "On Eagle's Wings," Linda read the following names of our deceased members while Millie place a flower for each in one of three vases which will be delivered to the Parham Building for display:

Ida Adams	Margaret Albright	Helen Baugh
Cassandra Beans	Ellen Bentley	Lauretta Bonfiglio
Mary Bragg	Richard Bright	Marian Patricia Carpenter
Iris Cooper	Sirena Cope	Bettilee J. Covert
Barbara Davis	Joan Dennis	Elizabeth S. Derby
Carmen Dey	Anna Cecelia Dietz	Carmen Donegan
Barbara Dorsey	Joel Drapalski	Mary Kathy Drazan
Eunice Emge	Patricia Ericson	Martha Ferkel
Betty Feusahrens	Rachel Finan	Marcine Floyd
Sharon Fulton	Joyce Gibson	Audrey O. Gildea
Mary Jean Gray	Kathryn Hagberg	Harry Hendrickson
Marvin Heptinstall	Lois Hohlmaier	James L. Johnson, Sr.
Rose Johnson	Bobbye C. Kudzma	Alice Kushner
Philip Levenson	Elva Lloyd	Beverly Madison
James Maize	Barbara Matti	Roger McClure
Catherine McMahon	Kay Merchant	Barbara Miller
Rhonda Miller	Leona Munoz	Thomas Neuenschwander
Thomas Nevin, Jr.	Robert Nichols	Georgia Pettigrew
Phyllis Richardson	Particia Ryan	Carol Saunders
Dorothy Schleupner	Charles Skipper	Barbara Smith
Raymond Spitzer	Donna Sponheimer	Fred Stauffer
Allen Stemple	Theresa Stripling	Lynda Symes

Alice Taylor
Lucy Whittington
Pamelynn Woody

Charles H. Tiemeyer, Jr.
Joyce Williams
Ronald J. Young

Nancy Underhill
Margie Williams
Dennis Younger

After reading the names, a poem was read remembering each of the members lost.

Installation of Officers

Rick Wiles introduced the AARSPA officers for 2020-2021 that were present, and Tillie Barckley performed the swearing in ceremony for Rick Wiles, president, Max Muller, treasurer and Bob Kanach, assistant treasurer. Rick reminded the membership that we still need a president-elect for the coming year and asked those present to strongly consider the position or another member for the position.

With the small number of members present, it was decided to give the birthday gift of a bottle of wine to the eleventh person who signed in for this meeting. Congratulations to Dennis Roncroni.

Dennis was asked to pick the winning raffle ticket for the Scholarship Fund and Max Muller received the \$20 50/50 raffle winnings.

Rick went over the Calendar of Events listed on the agenda as the food for the luncheon was delivered. After the luncheon, Rick asked for a motion to adjourn. Virginia Crespo made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Linda Poole.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Kanach for Zetta Hart.