

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association

General Membership Meeting and Luncheon

May 15, 2014

Renditions Golf Course

Davidsonville, Maryland

CALL TO ORDER: President Charlie Gable welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:40.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was led by Bob Kanach.

GREETINGS AND SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS: Charlie Gable welcomed 3 emeritus members and 2 "first timers" to the luncheon and he also introduced 2 of our scholarship recipients and their parents. In addition, he introduced Jodie Hogan, AACPS "Teacher of the Year" and representatives from MRSPA - Judith Zahren, Stuart Tucker, Parker Koons and Max Muller. He reviewed the meeting agenda .

MINUTES: Mary Wagner was absent and Charlie provided copies of the minutes from the February 6, 2014 meeting/luncheon. The minutes were approved for filing.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Alicia Hardisky shared the recent monthly financial reports for the Gunson Fund, Free School and AARSPA Funds. The reports were accepted and filed for audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Florida Debriefing: Charlie gave an overview of the Florida get-together which was held in Venice, Florida and hosted by Shirley Phillips. It was AARSPA's 23rd Florida get-together. Fifty participants met at Shirley's for cocktails on March 12th and 73 attended the luncheon at the Venice Yacht Club on March 13th. We do not have a Florida host for next year and we hope someone will step forward soon to host the event.

Free School Announcements: Karlie Everett thanked Marie Diamond for coordinating the spring cleaning and Bob Kanach for coordinating the building and grounds maintenance. Max continues to inventory the book collections and we cannot accept books published after 1900. Give us a call if you are interested in donating any books, materials or items to the school. There are 12 boxes of artifacts in the attic which need to be assessed. Fortunately we have located the original archeologist who worked on the "free School" property and she has agreed to assist us with the assessment as her time permits. Karlie and Charlie Gable participated in a "Paranormal Investigation" at the school. Although it was very interesting, neither Karlie or Charlie are completely sure of what they heard. The executive board has decided not to permit "ghost tours" at the school. The new Capital newspaper editor will visit the school in June. This year's tours will take place on the second Saturdays/Sundays during the months of April, May, June, July, and August. We still need more volunteers to serve as docents and guides.

Newsletter: Carla reported our next deadline is August 1, 2014.

Scholarships: Tillie Barckley thanked everyone for their continued financial generosity. She reviewed the procedures for making an AARSPA donation and a 21st Century Foundation donation.

Travel: Lou Kamm reported the Wilmington, Delaware train trip to view the autumn foliage will take place on October 25th and there are 13 seats remaining for sale. Tickets for the American Music Christmas Show in Lancaster, Pa. will be available in the September newsletter. Lou's committee is planning for 2015. Contact him if you have any ideas for trips, concerts, plays, etc.

Remembrance: Millie Zipay coordinated the Remembrance Service. She thanked everyone for keeping she and her committee (Diane Rogers, Nina Griffith) informed of deaths, birthdays, and anniversaries.

Various Topics: Bob Kanach shared information regarding the cost of our luncheons. We have been charging \$25 for our luncheons but the costs have risen to \$25.80 and \$26.90 based on location. We need to raise the cost of our meals for the 2014/2015 year. Snyders restaurant has closed and one of our members has suggested using the Gibson Island Country Club for a future luncheon. Bob also gave an update on the "Free School" roof condition and indicated that the roof may be OK for another 3-5 years based on an assessment provided by a roofing expert who works on the Londontowne Historical Site. Bob asked for volunteers to help clear the brush and downed trees in the back of the property on May 27th. Volunteers included: David Foster, Don Smith, Ron Ruffo, John Hammond and Bob Kanach. Bob also shared that Barry Fader has agreed to assume the position of President-elect for 2014/2015, Sue Errichiello for Recording Secretary, Charlie Toth for Corresponding Secretary, Alicia Hardisky for Treasurer, and Bob Kanach for Asst. Treasurer. It was also determined after the meeting that John Hammond will continue as Asst. Recording Secretary.

New Business: No further new business was reported.

MRSPA Presentations:

Stuart Tucker - President of MRSPA : Mr. Tucker congratulated AARSPA for nominating Max Muller as MRSPA's new president. He further stated that AARSPA is a "model" association for the entire state and he really liked the Florida meeting idea. Mr. Tucker explained the reason why this year's MRSPA event in Annapolis was cancelled due to a lack of registration. He concluded by reviewing the status of our retirement/pension system and the impact on our retirement as a result of this year's legislative budget process. He compared our retirement/pension system to other states and said we are overall in good shape but we must be vigilant and keep a close eye on what happens each year during the state budgetary process. We need to communicate frequently with our elected officials to make sure they know what our wishes are and that we are watching what they are doing with our tax money and our retirement/pension funding.

Judith Zahren - Executive Director of MRSPA : Ms. Zahren thanked us for inviting her to our luncheon/meeting. She said she fully agreed with Stuart's assessment of our association.. She also thanked us for always stepping forward to help at the state level and for our efforts to promote increased membership, both locally and at the state level. She and Max recently attended an NRTA meeting and found out our retirement system is in the middle of the pack based on funding levels. She encouraged us all to watch future elections and keep an eye on what our elected officials say and do. MRSPA works very hard with all political parties to promote what is best for its membership. Charlie Gable mentioned AARSPA has the 3rd largest membership in Maryland.

Max Muller - MRSPA President-Elect - July 1, 2014 : Max said it is good to be back at a local meeting. It is an exciting time for MRSPA. At a recent planning retreat, three essential items were noted: grow

membership and have more clout with state legislative issues , increase awareness of association members about what MRSPA does on a regular basis, and everything MRSPA does must be done through the lens of "advocacy". Thirteen priorities were identified for the MRSPA leadership team.

BREAK: First timer pictures were taken.

Remembrance Memorial Service: The service was coordinated by Millie Zipay and Nina Griffith. Members of the association placed a flower in a vase and acknowledged the name of a departed member. Voices in Melody performed several songs in remembrance of departed members. A series of formal resolutions were read to recognize departed members and the resolutions will be placed in the minutes as part of the Recording Secretary's record. Refer to "Memorial Service" - May 15, 2014. Both flower vases will be placed in the lobby at the AACPS central office in recognition of departed members. A listing of the departed members will be on display with the flowers.

LUNCHEON:

Anne Arundel County Teacher of the Year (2014): Jodie Hogan was introduced by Charlie Gable. Ms. Hogan is a Spanish teacher at South River High School. She addressed everyone and in particular the scholarship winners. She stressed the importance of teaching, accenting the positive, addressing technology and incorporating the "Common Core" curriculum into her daily instructional program. She said she strives everyday to be an excellent teacher and that educators are "Forever, Lifetime Learners"

AARSPA 2014 Scholarship Winners: Tillie Barckley identified the recipients and their parents. She introduced Mary Virginia Kizer-Ball, a senior from Annapolis High School who will attend Towson State University. Miss Kizer-Ball introduced her mother and thanks our members for their generosity. Tillie then introduced Paige Owens, a senior from Annapolis High School who will attend the College of New Jersey. Miss Owens introduced her father and also thanked our members for awarding her the scholarship. Tillie indicated the 3rd recipient, Shannon Derksen from Broadneck High School was unable to join us because she was taking an AP Exam. She will attend the University of Maryland. Miss Derksen sent a thank you note which Tillie read to the members.

Election of Officers for 2014/2015: Bob Kanach presented the names of the officers who will be assuming the positions of President-Elect and Recording Secretary. He also presented the officers who will be continuing in their positions as Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Recording Secretary. MRSPA President Stuart Tucker swore in the new and returning officers for 2014/2015 and he asked the membership to pledge their support to the officers.

President- Elect - Barry Fader	Treasurer - Alicia Hardisky
Recording Secretary - Sue Errichiello	Asst. Treasurer - Bob Kanach
Asst. Recording Secretary - John Hammond	President - Charlie Gable
Corresponding Secretary - Charlie Toth	

Entertainment: Voices of Melody performed several patriotic selections and encouraged members to "sing-a-long". The chorus was directed by Judy Engelmeyer and Joyce Nellenbach. Charlie Gable gave the directors and chorus a big "Thank You" for a great presentation and for all their hard work during the year . In addition, the chorus distributed their spring concert series performance dates, times, and locations.

Announcements:

Angela Cromwell and Sandra Edmonds reported \$165 was collected from the 50/50 raffle and the winner received \$82.50. Tillie Barckley reported that \$447.50 was collected for the scholarship fund, including the 50/50 raffle proceeds.

Millie Zipay conducted the birthday gift cards drawing for persons with birthdays in April, May, and June.

Important Dates:

June 12, 2014 - Exec. Board Meeting. - " Free School" - 10:00 AM

July 10, 2014 - Executive Board Meeting. - AACPS Board of Ed. - Center III - 10:00 AM

August 1, 2014 - Deadline for articles and information to Carla Duls for "The Informer"

TBA - Date and location for our September, 2014 - General Membership Meeting/Luncheon

The meeting/luncheon concluded at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully reported by:

John Hammond, Assistant Recording Secretary