

# **Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association**

## **General Membership Meeting November 15, 2012 Center of Applied Technology North**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Bob Kanach welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** The Pledge to the Flag was led by Charles Gable.

**Welcome to Cat-North:** Dan Schaffhauser, Principal welcomed everyone and presented a check in the amount of \$500 to Bob Kanach for the AARSPA scholarship fund in memory of Howard Hall. Mr. Hall was a tremendous supporter of Vocational-Technical education. The check was a donation from one of Cat-North's business partners.

**Guest Speaker:** Bob welcomed Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Maxwell thanked all AARSPA members for their contribution to the students of AACPS through their scholarships and their dedication and volunteer efforts throughout the years. He complimented CATN and CATS for their successes and for CATN hosting the meeting/luncheon. He went on to explain legislative initiatives at the state level and their impact on AACPS and retirees. He explained his intent to continue to fight for all required funding as mandated by the state and urged all members to vote and to stand up to be counted with regard to holding all elected officials accountable for state legislative funding mandates. There are no changes for retiree's current benefits in spite of efforts on the part of the county executive and county council to hold back funds. He will continue to fight to make sure the county pays its fair share. He requested assistance from AARSPA members to sit down with his administration to discuss important budget topics for the future. Health benefits funding are OK for now.

**Guest Speaker:** Bob welcomed Stuart Tucker, President of MRSPA. Mr. Tucker complimented AARSPA for such a fine turnout at today's meeting/luncheon and shared his condolences for the loss of Betty Anne White and Howard Hall. He went on to share MRSPA's initiatives for the elimination of pension corridor funding and re-adoption of actuarial funding. He also explained the new directions for the annual business meeting and convention. This year's annual business meeting will take place at the Double Tree Hotel in Annapolis, Md. on May 14, 2013. On May 5-7, 2014 the annual business meeting will be combined with MRSPA's convention and be held at the Double Tree Hotel. He also explained the new ABINITY discount program as an entertainment book on line. Mr. Tucker concluded by saying "MRSPA Works for You".

**MINUTES:** John Hammond provided copies of the minutes from the September 13, 2012 meeting. 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 November Financial Report. The reports were accepted and filed for audit.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** Charlie Toth indicated there was nothing new to report.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Legislative / United Seniors of Maryland:** Virginia Crespo provided the most recent United Seniors bulletin to all members. Virginia explained current legislative initiatives and explained the difference between pension corridor funding and actuarial funding and why we need to go back to actuarial funding. She discussed the upcoming "fiscal cliff" and said 20% of our state funds are impacted by the federal budget. She encouraged everyone to check out the MRSPA web site for information on legislative priorities and to communicate with their elected officials regarding our needs.

**Newsletter:** Our next deadline is December 1, 2012.

**Scholarships:** Karlie Everett thanked everyone for their continued financial generosity. In order to offer 3 scholarships we need to generate additional funds beyond the \$3 per member allocation which comes from annual membership dues. Currently we are \$1500 short of needed funds to offer 3 scholarships. We will make the decision regarding 3 vs. 2 scholarships in January, 2013. Karlie explained the different ways to donate as a tax deduction donation via 21st Century Foundation or a straight non-tax deductible donation directly to AARSPA.

**Free School :** Max offered note cards to the group at \$3 per packet. There will be a meeting on March 20, 2013 for docent and school marm training. He also noted that we may need to clean the building/grounds 2 times yearly instead of once a year. Bob discussed having a yearly picnic at the school to encourage more involvement and planned to discuss the possibility with the Lavall community.

**Travel:** Lou Kamm developed a survey form and asked everyone to complete it so travel plans for 2013 can be developed based on interest. Bob reported that Howard made arrangements for a trip to the Meyerhoff for a December 13th BSO performance. Fifty seats were reserved at \$50 each and the bus will depart from Annapolis High School. There are still vacancies so interested persons should contact Bob as soon as possible to reserve a seat.

**Birthday Gifts/ First Timer Picture:** Members with birthdays in October, November & December were reminded to pick up their gifts from the gift table. Also, first time attendees were reminded to gather for a picture by the podium.

**Florida Get-Together/Luncheon:** Bob indicated the Florida folks want to continue hosting the meeting/luncheon. He is looking at scheduling the event in February, 2013 in Naples, Florida and will have the dates in the next newsletter. Bob encouraged everyone to join him in Florida this year for a very enjoyable time with friends, family and colleagues.

**Membership:** Carol Kirby reported we have 1972 current members. About 30 FY13 unpaid members were dropped on November 1, 2012. We have 22 new members since our last meeting.

**Pre-Retirement:** Joel Drapalski reported we had a good turnout for the November pre-retirement meeting held at Severna Park High School and the feedback was extremely positive. Bob thanked Joel for chairing the meeting for 15 years.

**Nominations:** Nominations are needed for Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer for the 2013 /2014 year. Charlie Gable is our next president.

**BREAK:** Everyone took a 10 minute break and first timer pictures were taken by the podium.

### **Old Business:**

**Dues Increase:** Bob reviewed the importance of increasing AARSPA dues from \$10 to \$15 in order to maintain the level of service expected by the membership. The current level cannot continue to sustain the organization. It was also noted that the proposal must be voted on today in order for MRSPA to make the appropriate financial arrangements for billing and payments by its membership. The proposal was unanimously approved by all present.

**Community Service Project:** Bob explained an initiative at Hilltop Elementary to help the needy. A donation box was placed by the podium for donations and Charlie Toth delivered the donation box to the school.

### **New Business:**

**MRSPA Candidates:** Max Muller is running for President-Elect and Carla Duls is running for Secretary.

**AARSPA Member Directory:** Carol Kirby has membership directories available in hard copy or via internet. Contact Carol.

**LUNCHEON:** Luncheon was prepared and served by the CATN Culinary Arts and Baking & Pastry students under the direction of Mr. Bruce Davis and Mr. Peter Akerboom.

**Scholarship Funds Collected:** Karlie reported \$598 was collected from the table scholarship envelopes in addition to the \$500 from the CATN business partner.

**Chorus Holiday Schedule:** Bob referenced the schedule of holiday performances included in the agenda.

**Entertainment:** Charlie Gable introduced Mr. Tim Amann. Mr. Amann provided a terrific program which included playing the electric guitar and singing.

### **Reminders:**

AARSPA has a new web site. Log on to [www.aarspa.org](http://www.aarspa.org)

December 1, 2012 - Deadline for articles for the newsletter, *The Informer*.

December 13, 2012 - Holiday Pops trip to the Meyerhoff, leaving Annapolis H.S. at 1:00 PM

December 14, 2012 - Last day to donate holiday gifts to the Judy Center at Hilltop Elementary.

January 10, 2013 - Exec. Board Meeting - Conf. Rm. 1, Riva Road, 10:00 am

January 29, 2013 - USM Rally and Legislative Forum - St. John's College, Francis Scott Key Auditorium

February 7, 2013 - Exec. Board Meeting - Center 3, Riva Road, 10:00 am

February, TBD - Florida Meeting/ Luncheon - Naples, Florida

March 14, 2013 - General Membership Luncheon Meeting - Michael's 8th Avenue - 10:30 am

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 PM:** Bob thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

**Respectfully Submitted by:**  
**John Hammond, Recording Secretary**