

ANNE ARUNDEL RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting

April 17, 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, Carol Kirby, Brenda Gibson, Sandra Edmonds, Bonnie Schmeltz, John Hammond, and Sharyn Doyle

Call to Order: President Barry Fader called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

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

Introduction of Guests: Bonnie Schmeltz was introduced as a nominee for one of two Co-Presidents. Dixie Stack is the other nominee for the Co-President position. She was unable to attend the meeting. MRSPA Area Representative Janet Williams was also unable to attend.

Minutes of the January 12, 2017 Meeting: Minutes were reviewed. Sharyn thanked everyone who responded to her email asking for their feedback on the draft of the minutes. Sandra made a motion to accept the minutes and Tony seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

MRSPA Annual Meeting: Barry announced we are allowed to send 20 delegates and there are 4 more delegate seats available for the meeting. Sandra volunteered to attend and members were asked to contact Barry by this evening if they wished to attend also.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Rosemary Biggart distributed the Treasurer's Report and reported that our total budget was about \$600 less than this time last year. Carol gave her a check for \$400 from Membership Dues and it will be deposited. John motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, Sharyn seconded it. A vote was taken and the Report was unanimously approved. Budget will be proposed to members at the next General Member meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AARSPA Chorus "Voices in Melody"– Rick had to leave the meeting early and referred us to the Spring Schedule printed on the agenda. The group will be performing at our May General Meeting.

Corresponding Secretary- Brenda reported that she sent out thank you notes to the many Delegates, Senator and Aides for their participation in the Feb. 16th legislative luncheon. Our Superintendent was also thanked for attending and speaking with us at our January Executive Board meeting. She even received a reply from one delegate.

Recording Secretary: No report at this time

Community Service/Education Committee: Karlie shared the YWCA thank you letter for our donations, even though the wrong items were listed as being donated. The actual letter was given to the Recording Secretary. It was also shared that we are not submitting entries for any state awards at this time.

Educator/Employee of the Month: Tony reported that the May and June nominees were already selected. He also shared a story about the March nominee asking for leave the day he was going to be honored at the Board meeting. Therefore, they postponed his nomination until April and that day in April, they had to bring him into the Board room from where he was working elsewhere in the building.

Free School: Karlie reported the artifacts display work is finished. After a few minutes of discussion, it was decided that June 8th will be the official unveiling and Karlie will extend an invitation to several key people within the Board of Education and outside of the Board. The Free School was also highlighted in the Entertainment Section of the Capital thanks to Deb Ahalt. The actual article was shared and given to the Recording Secretary. Brochures about the free school are being delivered to county libraries and articles are being placed in local newsletters.

Possible additional road signs are needed since many visitors have commented they couldn't find the Free School easily.

Chesapeake, Severna Park and South River Senior Highs have scheduled visits for several of their students.

The MD Historic Trust representative came out to visit and inspect the building and surrounding grounds. The new roof and exterior painting have to be approved and Greg Stewart from the Board of Education's Planning Office will be contacted for assistance.

Going Green- Bob reported 52-56% of our members are opening the newsletter. We spend about \$1000 in postage every issue so we will continue to ask members to use the electronic newsletter versus our mailings.

Historian & Editor of the "Informer": Carla was absent and there was no report.

Legislative Committee: Virginia was absent. Barry reported that the MRSPA website has all of the legislative updates and those of us attending the Annual Meeting will hear more.

Membership Chairperson: Carol shared the new directory and it was available for all members at the meeting. We have 1830 paying members with 39 additional Emeritus members and 1224 newsletters mailed out. Carol also announced she needs to step down from her position. MRSPA Membership Report was also included in the packet for this meeting.

Pre-Retirement Committee- John Salwach: John reported April 22nd is the next session at the Board from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. New Membership brochures will be available even after the Print Shop made a mistake in the first printing and had to rerun the brochures.

Program Committee: Charles Gable was absent and there was no report.

Publicity Committee: Debbie discussed concerns about privacy and Facebook, recalling the comments by Gail I. at the last General Membership meeting. Discussion continued about MRSPA's response to this issue and it was agreed that we will use the language from their attorney for our newsletters. This disclosure will give our members a warning message that any photo taken and posted on our Facebook page and/or in our newsletters or in any publication becomes public domain ...so if that is a concern, please step away if a photo is being taken.

Raffle Committee: Sandy thanked everyone and shared no additional report at this time.

Remembrance & Sunshine Committee- Millie shared a story about one of our members who forgot why she called Mille and it turned out to be an Anniversary date to be added to our newsletter...only it was too late. Millie also shared that there was a left over budget line item thanks to the generosity of the Blue Dolphin Restaurant owners who donated bottles of wine for our birthday prizes.

Scholarship Committee: Tillie thanked the members of the Board who were also members of the Scholarship Committee and read the names of the top 3 winners. These students will be honored at the April 24th ceremony and everyone is welcome to attend. 21st Century scholarship donations and our scholarship donations are still welcomed and will reported at each meeting.

Trips & Travel Committee: Lucy was absent and Bob reported we have 25 so far for the Monticello trip and want 30. Our newsletter was just mailed so more members are expected to sign up for this trip. .

New and Old Business

Old Business: No additional items

New Business – Further discussion about privacy issue continued. Barry suggested forming a committee to review the MRSPA’s attorney’s message and how it can help us.

Barry also shared the memo from MRSPA about a series of Facebook webinars and a copy of the memo was distributed.

Bob shared the new changes to Copayment Tiers that were ratified unbeknownst to us. Information was in our packet. Discussion ensued about our lack of involvement and our lack of bargaining rights. Tony shared that there have been more than 1000 new hires since school started and there over 6000 retirees. Retirees are currently only paying 25% of medical costs with the Board paying the other 75%. It used to be 80/20. The current 75/25 can be changed by the stroke of a pen...and yet we have no bargaining rights or input. At our last Executive Board meeting, Dr. Arlotto said he would be certain we would have representation and Charlie Gable was going to follow-up. Unfortunately Charlie was absent so we do not know what has occurred and will ask Charlie to update us at the next Executive Board meeting.

Barry brought up the surveys that were collected at our last General Membership meeting and the need for further review by our September General Board Meeting.

This recording secretary spoke to Barry about making our general membership more aware of our lack of involvement, their need for support and involvement with our organization and how very easily our benefits can be changed. Do our retirees even know how little the Board pays for our new employees? Do they realize they can be grandfathered right out of benefits? Perhaps we need to discuss this at our May General membership meeting...it can get more of our retirees involved.

Adjournment -Motions were made and vote taken with a unanimous vote to adjourn at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharyn Doyle
Recording Secretary