

AARSPA
Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
General Membership Meeting/Luncheon Minutes
Blue Dolphin
February 8, 2018

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:31 by Bonnie Schmeltz, Co-President.

Pledge of Allegiance: Pledge to flag was led by Barry Fader, Past President.

Greetings and Special Introductions: Bonnie Schmeltz welcomed the following:

- First time members Angela Barber and Linda Crosby
- Emeritus members Ethel Bohle, Mary Etta Dorr, Jeanne Hartge, Herb Sappington, Mary Tereshinski and Jean Trott
- Guests included: Anthony Spencer from the North Arundel Cultural Preservation Society; Bonnie and Bill Brose, AARSPA Website Developer; Lorraine Johnson, MRSPA Vice President; Wanda Twigg, MRSPA Executive director; and Janet Williams, Area II Director of MRSPA.

Overview of Activities: Bonnie Schmeltz presented a short overview of the day's activities.

Approval of the Minutes from the November 15th meeting General Membership Meeting at CAT-North: Sharyn Doyle, Recording Secretary, presented the minutes. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Sharyn Doyle next introduced Bill and Bonnie Brose. Bonnie shared the story of how she convinced Bill to begin developing websites for the many LEAs in MRSAP when she was President. Bill shared his successes and his work with AARSPA. Appreciation for this very special honor from AARSPA was also expressed.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Kanach, Assistant Treasurer, presented the budget update. Our membership deficit was highlighted and overall budget items were reviewed. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as presented. Vote was taken and the report was unanimously approved.

AARSPA Member Tornado Victim Update: Bonnie Schmeltz reported that Lou Solano, one of our members whose home was destroyed by a tornado a few months ago finally received monies generously donated by our members. He had relocated, making it difficult to find him.

Committee Reports:

Nominations for 2018-2019: Barry Fader, Chairperson, reported on the possible positions available and welcomed nominations from any member for any position. He also encouraged participation in committees, even if members did not wish to be an officer.

Community Service/Consumer Education: Community Service: Phyllis Cherry, Chairperson, thanked members for their past and current donations and reminded them about the next donation of books. The STAIR program was also briefly discussed as one of our new recipients for used as well as new books. Our new Community Service Volunteer Opportunities link was also introduced.

Consumer Education: Warning about cleaning out the medicine cabinets at home for safety precautions was presented. Medicines not used anymore can be taken to local Police stations for destruction. The yellow form containing wallet cards and cards for the refrigerator with medical emergency information was held up for a demonstration on their use. Copies had been placed on each table inside the green colored F.Y.I MRSPA folder.

Free School: Bob Kanach, Committee Member, briefly discussed the Free School and the need for more Docents and a new roof. The new roof will be funded by the Gunson Fund and the Board of Education, expecting to be done by June, knowing that the roof had to be approved by the Historical Society. He also shared the recent story of Herb Sappington and the roofing company representatives.

Voices in Melody: Rick Wiles, Chairperson, spoke about the past winter season and its success. Practices for the new spring/summer season will begin on the 13th of this month and new members are welcomed. Location and practice times are listed on the agenda. Rick also stated he would be recruiting new members during our lunch time, keeping in mind, he was a physical education teacher and now he is in a singer. Even if a member feels they can't sing, he encouraged joining anyway.

Legislation Committee: Virginia Crespo, Chairperson, discussed the recent USM Legislative Forum where about 100 hearty souls attended versus the usual 500 due to the weather and school delay/closing. There are over 2000 bills presented this session and they are being monitored closely. The MRSPA website has more details and the bills of concern are explained in the trifold on each table. Non-fiscal bills usually are passed easily yet pension protection, long term care, health care and consumer protections are still priorities and need watching. Members were also invited to attend the Feb. 21st AARSPA legislative luncheon.

Scholarship Committee: Tillie Barckley led her cheer for the word K...I...N...D. She explained its meaning, and its impact on life. She also thanked members again for their generosity. Donations were also encouraged to be placed in the yellow envelope on each table. Checks can be made to 21st Century Foundation Inc. or to AARSPA, and cash is accepted.

Remembrance/Sunshine Committee: Nina Griffith, Committee Member, thanked members for informing the committee members about illnesses, deaths and birthdays. She also reminded everyone

about the very special memorial service at our next meeting in May when we would be honoring those who died from May 2017 thru April 2018.

Trips and Travel Committee: Lucy Travers, Chairperson, reviewed the recent and upcoming trips. The committee met recently and identified trips to the D.C. African American Museum in October, 2018 Gaylord and ICE in December, 2018 and Cape May in May 2019. Details will be in the Informer as dates near for registration.

New Business Items from Members: None

Break and Conversation

Yvonne Henry Introducing Guest Speaker: Mr. Tony Spencer presenting “The Legacy of African American James Spencer: Yvonne Henry did so and Tony Spencer, former AACPS Board member, recalled the history of his great grandfather James Spencer, born in 1815, and related it to his own development after attending a Rosenwald funded school.

Guest Speaker: Lorraine Johnson- MRSPA Vice President: Lorraine Johnson shared the message from Faye Miller, President of MRSPA and stressed the important role we play as members.

Guest Speaker: Wanda Twigg – MRSPA Executive Director: Wanda Twigg presented the many facets of the MRSPA membership including Abenity membership discounts and Legislative Committee priorities. Reference was also made to the Member Benefits trifold on each table. .

Lunch was served at noon. The Big Crabtown Band Combo entertainment arrived, was introduced and entertained while lunch was served.

Birthday Drawing Winners: Charles Gable presented January, February and March birthday prize winners

Scholarship Collection Report: Tillie Barckley announced the scholarship collection results. A total of \$602 was collected after the 50/50 raffle drawing.

Raffle Winner: The winner was selected and the \$82.50 prize offered. The winner requested it to be used for the scholarship fund. A total of \$165. had been collected for the raffle.

Announcements and Adjournment: Bonnie Schemeltz asked for a motion and a second motion to adjourn. She reminded everyone of the dates to remember on the last page of the agenda. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.