

**Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association  
General Membership Meeting and Luncheon Minutes  
February 8, 2024  
Olive Grove**

**Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 10:25 a.m. by Co-President Doyle.

**Pledge to the Flag** Rick Wiles lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Greetings and Introductions** Co-President Doyle welcomed our guests:

- First Time Attendees
  - Deborah Cook, Barb Geier, Elizabeth Spears, Bill Sharkey, Harry Sharkey, Debby Ward
- Guest Performers: Broadneck Ensemble
- Carla Duls, MRSPA President and husband Jim

**Minutes from the November 9, 2023 Meeting**

Sharyn Doyle shared the minutes on our website and asked attendees to accept the minutes as posted. The minutes were approved.

**Business Meeting**

**Committee Reports** Co-President Anzalone now led the meeting

**AARSPA Voices in Melody**

Rick Wiles reported that there currently 33 members in the chorus and they will meet on February 20 for their first rehearsal. There are now five concerts scheduled. If anyone is interested in joining the chorus, please let Rick Wiles know.

**Consumer Education/Community Service**

Phyllis Cherry reported that there have been many scams perpetrated on senior citizens through emails and phone calls. Should you need help with scams related to your identity or finances please contact your bank, FBI website, and local police.

Ms. Cherry also reported that Sarah's House is in need toilet tissue and baby diapers. Items collected today will be given to The Light Hose in Annapolis and Animal Care and Control in Millersville. Ms. Cherry also shared that small nursing homes (2-16 beds) have the biggest need for donations such as floss and shampoo. These smaller facilities are often overlooked.

Charlie Gable and Anthony Anzalone shared the new mini-grant program AARSPA is sponsoring. Our recipients were selected from Anne Arundel County applications not receiving a mini-grant from MRSPA. Two individuals out of seven were selected to receive \$300. It was requested of the schools that the award be presented at a general faculty meeting.

**Free School Museum**

Karlie Everett gave the report on the Free School Celebration. The school received great press for its 300<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. Tours are being requested and additional volunteers are needed. The building is open the second Saturday and Sunday each month. She also thanked the Hammond Family for agreeing to clean the building in February.

Ms. Everett announced that Maryland Day is March 24<sup>th</sup> the activities will open with experiences for children.

### **Legislative Committee**

Virginia Crespo summarized the legislative session to date, sharing there are now more than 2,400 bills introduced, 40 or so for which MRSPA is monitoring closely. Nineteen of these bills are favored by MRSPA and four they are opposing. Some of the bills being followed are related to senior tax credits, drug cost, curriculum, and taxes being used for private schools.

### **Membership Committee**

Leslie Schell and Marge Smith are continuing their efforts to recruit new members. They distributed the new AARSPA Directories. The committee wants to spotlight small businesses owned retirees in the next directory. It was reported that the first breakfast for new retirees was successful and they were able to register 17+ new members. A poster is being prepared to hang in all schools to share information about AARSPA. April 18<sup>th</sup> is the next Eastern Shore Luncheon. It was suggested that maybe a Zoom meeting could include.

### **Remembrance Committee**

Millie Gardner reported that there are five birthday gifts. The Memorial Service will be held at the Two Rivers luncheon. Ms. Gardner has been in contact with a Blue Angels photographer who will provide framed photographs for a silent auction, with the proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund.

### **Scholarship Committee**

Tillie Barckley reported we will provide four scholars with \$5,000 scholarships. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century group has a new name, Educational Foundation of AACPS. Bob Kanach shared the balance in the account that included donations, 50/50 Raffle, and a \$10,000 donation made by Emma Schram. The donations for the day \$280 cash, \$275 checks, and \$138 raffle (total: \$693)

### **Trips and Travel**

Co-Chairs Kay Stawas and Gail Matthews reported that the Blue Angels trip is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>. The maximum number of attendees is 50. The cut off for registration is March 4<sup>th</sup>. The bus will leave the United Methodist Church at 11:30 am. All attendees must ride the bus. Lunch at 3:00 pm will be held at Red, Hot and Blue.

### **Old Business**

Charlie Gable reported that he is now the MRSPA director for our organization. He shared that there were 60 members who attended the Jan 30<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting. Many of the attendees were from AARSPA. Dues are increasing to \$50 and can be deducted from our retirement checks. MRSPA is considering scholarships for teachers to get certification and mini-grants. The MRSPA business meeting will be May 7<sup>th</sup> at Turf Valley

### **New Business**

No new business

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
March 20, 2024	Florida Gathering being hosted by Arlene and Ron Derflinger in St. Cloud, Florida
March 21, 2024	Florida Meeting and Luncheon, Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen
April 11, 2024	Executive Board Mtg., 10:00-12:00 PM, BOE room 2A
April 18, 2024	Eastern Shore Luncheon Suicide Bridge
May 7, 2024	MRSPA Annual Business Meeting at Turf Valley Resort
May 9, 2024	AARSPA General Membership Meeting/Luncheon at Two Rivers Steak and Fish House in Pasadena, MD
June 13, 2024	Executive Board Mtg., The Free School, Davidsonville, MD
June 19, 2024	Brian Boru Scholarship Fund Raiser 11 am - 9 pm
July 11, 2024	Executive Board Meeting, 10-12 pm, MRSPA Office, Odenton, MD

Respectfully submitted by,  
 Zetta Hart  
 Recording Secretary