



MEA-Retired Board of Directors' Meeting

MEA Headquarters – MEA Board Room

September 16, 2015

Minutes

9:30 – 10:00 Coffee

Present:

~~Judy Foster, President~~

Daniel Rudd, Secretary/Treasurer

James Urbanski, Region 2

Betty Peiffer, Region 4

~~Joellyn Ellis, Region 6~~

Margaret Schroder, Region 8

Earl Hagstrom, Region 10

~~Timothy McMann, Region 12~~

Sue Fuelling, Region 14

Jeanne O'Callaghan, Region 16

Kristin Schourek, Region 18

~~James Sparapani, ESP Director At-Large~~

Bonnie Urlaub, MAHE Liaison

Elias Chapa, Minority Director At-Large

David Schopp, Vice President

Harvey Miller, Past President

Etta Mae Chapman, Region 3

Anne Good, Region 5

Larry Smartt, Region 7

Mary Yedinak, Region 9

Penny Letts, Region 11

William Papo, Region 13

Kay Walker, Region 15

Earl Eliason, Region 17

Also Present:

Gary Cynowa, Alternate Director, Region 6

Mary Yeomans, Alternate Director, Region 12

Pamela DeGryse, Alternate Director, Region 9

Bill Williams, Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, Region 7

Robert Letts, MEA RA Delegate, Region 11

Gretchen Dziadosz, MEA Executive Director

Steven Cook, MEA President

Nancy Strachan, MEA Vice-President

Richard Trainor, MEA Secretary/Treasurer

Paul Helder, MEA Retirement Consultant

Andy Neumann, MEA Political Organizer

Lisa Andros, MEA Staff Secretary

Absent:

Judy Foster, President

Joellyn Ellis, Region 6

Timothy McMann, Region 12

James Sparapani, ESP Director At-Large

- I. **Call to Order** – David Schopp, Vice President called the meeting to order at 10:00.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Etta Mae Chapman led us in the pledge.
- III. **Moment of Silence** – Penny Letts led us in the moment of silence.
- IV. **Introductions** – We went around the room introducing ourselves.
- V. **Announcements** – David mentioned that this is a hard week for Judy who is undergoing treatment for cancer. Mariam will be taking a group shot around 1:00. Dave is collecting gift cards/money for the PAC Pride Basket at the MEA Representative Assembly on October 3, 2015. Dan mentioned that the meeting is being recorded and that the mikes are live and we need to take conservation outside the room. He also asked us to please turn off or mute our cell phones. Dan wished “Happy Birthday” to August Birthdays – Mary Yedinak, Etta Mae Chapman – September Birthdays – Kay Walker - October Birthdays – Betty Peiffer, Bonnie Urlaub, Larry Smartt, Margaret Schroder, and Penny Letts. Jim Urbanski mentioned the loss of Bill Lusa this past summer.
- VI. **Seating of New Board Members** - It was moved by James Urbanski and seconded by Anne Good to seat the following Board members. Motion carried.

Immediate thru August 31, 2017 – William Papo - Region 13
Kay Walker - Region 15

It was moved by Harvey Miller and seconded by Penny Letts to seat the following Alternate board members for this meeting only. Motion carried.

Gary Cynowa – Region 6
Mary Yeomans – Region 12

It was moved by Harvey Miller and seconded by Penny Letts to excuse the following members. Motion carried.

Judy Foster, President
Joellyn Ellis, Region 6
Timothy McMann, Region 12
James Sparapani, ESP Director At-Large
- VII. **Adoption of Agenda** – It was moved by Anne Good and seconded by Earl Hagstrom to adopt the agenda with flexibility. Motion carried.
- VIII. **Approval of Minutes** - March 18, 2015 - It was moved by Etta Mae Chapman and seconded by Earl Eliason to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.
- IX. **Board Orientation** – David Schopp - Dave led us through our responsibilities as Board members.
- X. **MEA-Retired Goals** – David Schopp – Dave mentioned that the goals had been adopted through 2016.

XI. Officer Reports

- A. **President** – Judy Foster - See written report in the packet.
- B. **Vice-President** – David Schopp – See written report in the packet. He is looking for pictures for the website. He talked briefly about Constant Contact and MEA-Retired membership drive.
- C. **Secretary/Treasurer** - Daniel Rudd - See written report in the packet. He mentioned that as of July 31, 2015 the balance of income vs expenses is a positive \$629,008.18. We will not be receiving the final 2014-2015 budget report until after the audit is completed.
- D. **NEA Board of Directors** – Daniel Rudd – The October Super Week will be October 2-3, 2015. He will again be serving on the NEA-Retired Organizing Conference Committee and the Local President Release Time Grant Committee.

XII. Staff Reports

- A. **MEA Liaison to MEA-Retired and Retired Issues** – Paul Helder – Paul talked about his background. He spoke about the meeting with the MEA-Retired officers and the goals we have for him and the organization. He said that MEA-Retired needs to get bigger, stronger, and better disciplined and organized. He said that non-members will not receive the same level of service that fully paid lifetime MEA-Retired members will receive. He answered various questions. He is willing to come to Chapter meetings.
- B. **MEA/FS Liaison** - Ross Wilson – Ross was unable to attend.
- C. **MEA/MEA-Retired Executive Director** – Gretchen Dziadosz – Gretchen said that we expect a decision from MERC regarding the August Opt-Out Window Case. We will probably seek a stay of the Commission’s ruling if it is against us and appealing the decision into the courts. MEA is putting 10 Organizers in the field to deal with Locals with low membership, high numbers of members not paying us, and decertification. She answered various questions. She said that MEA Legal Council said that if a member opts-out but has fully paid their AIM dues then we cannot kick them out of MEA-Retired. She also mentioned the settlements with the professional staff unions.
- D. **MEA Political Organizer** – Andy Neumann – Andy talked about those members who are both new and seasoned who have faced problems with evaluations. He talked a little about his background. He talked about his job and the up-coming elections. He answered several questions.

XIII. MEA Officers

- A. **Steven Cook, MEA President** – Steve reported that 53 MEA RA delegates and Local officers that have opted out. What do we do with the Locals that are below 20% and those below 25%? He also spoke of the NEA early endorsement of Hillary Clinton for President. He talked about the “Ask Us” TV and radio ads. He answered questions on various topics.
- B. **Nancy Strachan, MEA Vice President** – Nancy attended the Grand Traverse Bay Chapter meeting where over 80 members attended. She talked about the two NEA Conferences that she will be sending members. The first is the NEA Minority and Women’s’ Leadership Training in Dallas, TX in February. She can send 4 minorities and 2 women to this conference. The second is the NEA Leadership Conference in San

Francisco, CA the end of January and we are entitled to send 14 members.

- C. **Richard Trainor, MEA Secretary/Treasurer** – Rick talked about the close of the August Opt Out window - 2,336 members sent in letters to opt out. Looks like MEA will come in under budget. People who have opted out in the past are starting to come back. The problem is that local leaders are opting out especially ESP Locals. There are about 6,000-7,000 that are in arrears.

XIV. Committee Updates

- A. **Annual Meeting Planning Committee** – Anne Good – Annual meeting will be at the Crowne Plaza on April 5, 2016. Packet meeting will probably be a week before.
- B. **Budget Committee** - Daniel Rudd – The committee met in the Soo to go over the 2014-2015 and the 2015-2016 budgets.
- C. **Chapter Development** - Penny Letts – The committee will be working on revising the “Take Five Come Alive” document.
- D. **Chartering and Affiliation** - Daniel Rudd – No new Chapters at this time.
- E. **Communications/Web Site** – Nancy Coscarelli – No report at this time.
- F. **Conference Table Committee** - Daniel Rudd – We will have a manned table at the MEA Fall RA.
- G. **Constitution, Bylaws and Administrative Policies** - Bill Williams – He handed out a sheet with a list of those Chapters to be reviewed.
- H. **Elections** - Daniel Rudd – The on-line election will be February 8-19, 2016. We also have not received many Chapter Officer up-dates especially
- I. **Legislative Committee** - Karen Zyczynski – No report at this time.
- J. **Public Relations** – Harvey Miller – The committee has a charge which he will find out more at the Committee Chair meeting tomorrow.
- K. **MPSERS** – James Pearson – No report at this time.
- L. **MEA Executive Committee** - Daniel Rudd – Dan talked about the two new business items being brought to the MEA Fall RA.
- M. **Other**

XV. Unfinished Business

- A. **MEA-Retired Website** – David Schopp – Dave gave an update on the website. He talked about local Chapter websites.
- B. **Other**

XVI. New Business

- A. **Nomination for MEA-Retired Officers** – Committee of the Whole – Harvey Miller
 1. **MEA-Retired President, MEA-RA Delegate, NEA-RA Delegate, NEA-Retired Annual Meeting Delegate**
 2. **MEA-Retired Vice President**
 3. **MEA-Retired Secretary/Treasurer**

It was moved by Bill Papo and seconded by Penny Letts for the Committee of the Whole to return to regular business. Motion carried. See Appendix “A” for nominations.

- B. **Election of Executive Committee Members** – Judy Foster
 1. **Two year term (1 position)**

- See Appendix "A" for nomination and results.
- C. **Election of Alternate to the Executive Committee – Judy Foster**
 - 1. **Two year term (Possible 2 positions)**
See Appendix "A" for nomination and results.
 - D. **Nomination of Region Directors – Even Numbered Regions – Judy Foster – See Appendix "A" for nominations.**
 - E. **Nomination of Alternate Region Director – Even Numbered Regions – Judy Foster - See Appendix "A" for nominations.**
 - F. **Nomination of MEA-RA Delegates – Judy Foster - See Appendix "A" for nominations.**
 - G. **Nomination of NEA-RA Delegates – Judy Foster - See Appendix "A" for nominations.**
 - H. **Presidents' Conclave – Judy Foster – This will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2015. We are well on our way with the planning but you can e-mail Judy or Dave if you have any suggestions for the Conclave.**
 - I. **Committee Chair Meeting – David Schopp – We are having a meeting with the committee chair to talk about their assignments and how we all can work together.**
 - J. **Recommendation regarding Officer Honorarium – Daniel Rudd – At the summer meeting of the Budget Committee, Jack Ellis recommended that we increase the Officer honorarium by 20%. After much discussion at MEA-Retired Executive Committee the amounts were changed to \$6,000 for President and \$5,000 for the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. It was moved by Dan, on behalf of and with recommendation of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee, that we increase the Officer the honorarium for President to \$6,000 and Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer to \$5,000 each beginning September 1, 2016. Motion carried.**
 - K. **Recommendation regarding Committee Chair compensation – Daniel Rudd – It was moved by Dan, on behalf of and with recommendation of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee, that we pay the Committee Chairs \$50 for each committee meeting up to \$200. In order to receive the stipend, they must hold a meeting, face-to-face or a phone conference, turn in minutes and submit a voucher within 30 days of the meeting. Motion carried.**
 - L. **MEA-Retired Administrative Policy – Daniel Rudd - Dan pointed out the changes in the Policy that were approved last year. It was moved by Dan, on behalf of and with recommendation of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee, to adopt the changes to the Policy as submitted by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Motion carried.**
 - M. **MEA-Retired Chapter Prototype Constitution and Bylaws – Daniel Rudd - Dan pointed out the changes in the Prototype. It was moved by Dan, on behalf of and with recommendation of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee, that we adopt the prototype as submitted by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Motion carried.**
 - N. **NEA-Retired Conference in San Diego, CA – Daniel Rudd - Dan said that the Conference will be March 22-24, 2016. We will again be offering partial funding for members to attend. It was moved by Harvey Miller and seconded by Bill Papo to offer \$900 per attendee up to a total of \$6,000. Motion carried.**
 - O. **On-line Election – Daniel Rudd - He said that our on-line election will be held from February 8-19, 2016. We will be electing 11 delegates for both**

the MEA RA and NEA RA. If necessary, we will also be electing Region Directors and Alternate Directors from the even numbered Regions. We have received many requests for paper ballots.

- P. Request for NEA Grant funds by Vivian Davis** – Daniel Rudd - Dan asked us to read the request before this item is discussed. After much discussion, at the MEA-Retired Executive Committee, it was moved to deny the request on grounds that the request does not meet our NEA grant guidelines. After much discussion it was moved by Jeanne O’Callaghan and seconded by Harvey Miller to concur with the MEA-Retired Executive Committee and deny the request. Motion carried – it was not unanimous.
 - Q. Proposed 2016-2017 Calendar** – Daniel Rudd – Dan walked us through the proposed 2016-2017 calendar. It was moved by Dan, on behalf of and with recommendation of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee, that we approve the proposed calendar. Motion carried. See Attachment “C”.
 - R. Suggestions for Annual Meeting speaker** – Judy Foster – We were asked to think who we might want as a speaker for the Annual Meeting.
 - S. Actions of the Executive Committee** – All action items of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee have been acted on today.
 - T. Other**
- XVII. Board of Directors Sharing Time** – Bonnie Urlaub share that today there are 38% fewer students going into education than five years ago. Harvey also talked about teacher shortage. Many mentioned by billboards around the state asking for substitute teachers across the state. Gary Cynowa mentioned Mark Brewer will be the speaker at the Region 6 Retired Chapter meeting and will be talking about gerrymandering.
- XVIII. Final Remarks - Officers** – Dan reported that we collected \$100 for the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education.
- XIX. Adjournment** – It was moved by Larry Smartt and seconded by Etta Mae Chapman to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10.

“My tailor is willing to make me a pair of pants, or sew it seams.”

Attachment "A"

Nomination for MEA-Retired President, MEA-RA Delegate, NEA-RA Delegate, NEA-Retired Annual Meeting Delegate –

This is for a three year term beginning September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2019. Nominations will remain open until the Annual Meeting on April 5, 2016.

Judy Foster, Region 8, was nominated.

Nomination for MEA-Retired Vice President –

This is for a three year term beginning September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2019. Nominations will remain open until the Annual Meeting on April 5, 2016.

Kay Walker, Region 15, was nominated.

Nomination for MEA-Retired Secretary/Treasurer –

This is for a three year term beginning September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2019. Nominations will remain open until the Annual Meeting on April 5, 2016.

Dan Rudd, Region 7, was nominated.

Election for one (1) position on the MEA-Retired Executive Committee –

This is for a two year term beginning immediately thru August 31, 2018.

Anne Good, Region 5, was nominated. It was moved by Harvey Miller and seconded by Earl Eliason to close nominations and elect Anne by acclamation. Motion carried.

Election for one (1) Alternate position on the MEA-Retired Executive Committee –

This is for a two year term beginning immediately thru August 31, 2018.

Penny Letts, Region 11, and William Papo, Region 13, were nominated. William Papo withdrew his nomination. It was moved by William Papo and seconded by Harvey Miller to close nominations and elect Penny by acclamation. Motion carried.

Nomination of Region Directors – Even Numbered Regions –

This is for a two year term beginning September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2018. These nominations will remain open until December 15, 2015.

Region 2	James Urbanski
Region 4	
Region 6	Joellyn Ellis
Region 8	Margaret Schroder
Region 10	Earl Hagstrom and Rita Vater-Darnton
Region 12	Timothy McMann
Region 14	Sue Fuelling
Region 16	Jeanne O'Callaghan
Region 18	Kristin Schourek

Nomination of Alternate Region Director – Even Numbered Regions –

This is for a two year term beginning September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2018.
These nominations will remain open until December 15, 2015.

Region 2 Karen Zyczynski
Region 4
Region 6 Gary Cynowa
Region 8 Dane Morris
Region 10 Folke Boman
Region 12 Mary Yeomans
Region 14 David Schopp
Region 16 Al Beamish
Region 18

Nomination of MEA-RA Delegates (11) –

This is for a three year term beginning September 1, 2016 thru August 31, 2019.
These nominations will remain open until December 15, 2015.

Gary Collens – Region 7
Homer Filey – Region 15
Diana Irons – Region 6
Timothy McMann – Region 12
Elizabeth Metcalf – Region 9
Betty Ong – Region 7
William Papo – Region 13
Frederick Peters, III – Region 7
Larry Smartt – Region 7
James Sparapani – Region 17
Mary Yedinak – Region 9

Nomination of NEA-RA Delegates (11) –

This is for a three year term beginning the Summer of 2016 thru the Summer of 2018. These nominations will remain open until December 15, 2015.

Etta Mae Chapman – Region 3
Elizabeth Metcalf – Region 9
Jeanne O'Callaghan – Region 16
Betty Ong – Region 7
William Papo – Region 13
Mary Yedinak – Region 9

ATTACHMENT "B"

MEA-Retired 2015-2016 CALENDAR

2015

September 14, 2015	MEA-Retired Officer
September 15, 2015	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
September 16, 2015	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
October 3, 2015	MEA Fall Representative Assembly
November 9, 2015	MEA-Retired Officer
November 10, 2015	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
November 11, 2015	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
November 12, 2015	MEA-Retired Presidents' Conclave
December 15, 2015	Deadline for Nominations and Bio

2016

January 4, 2016	MEA-Retired Officer
January 5, 2016	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
January 6, 2016	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
February 8–19, 2016	MEA-Retired Online Election
March 14, 2016	MEA-Retired Officer
March 15, 2016	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
March 16, 2016	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
March 14 - 25, 2016	MEA Scholarship Reading
April 4, 2016	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
April 5, 2016	MEA-Retired Annual Meeting
May 6-7, 2016	MEA Spring Rep Assembly
June 30-July 1, 2016 (?)	NEA-Retired Annual Meeting
July 1-8, 2016	NEA Representative Assembly
July 26-28, 2016	MEA Summer Leadership Conference
July 26, 2016	MEA-Retired Summer Leadership Dinner
July 27, 2016	MEA-Retired Summer Leadership Workshop

ATTACHMENT "C"

MEA-Retired 2016-2017 CALENDAR (Proposed)

2016

September 12, 2016	MEA-Retired Officer
September 13, 2016	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
September 14, 2016	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
September 15, 2016	MEA-Retired Committee Chairs
October 8, 2016	MEA Fall Representative Assembly
November 7, 2016	MEA-Retired Officer
November 8, 2016	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
November 9, 2016	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
November 10, 2016	MEA-Retired Presidents' Conclave
December 15, 2016	Deadline for Nominations and Bio

2017

January 9, 2017	MEA-Retired Officer
January 10, 2017	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
January 11, 2017	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
February 6–17, 2017	MEA-Retired Online Election
March 6, 2017	MEA-Retired Officer
March 7, 2017	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
March 8, 2017	MEA-Retired Board of Directors
March 13-24, 2017	MEA Scholarship Reading
April 4, 2017 (?)	MEA-Retired Executive Committee
April 5, 2017 (?)	MEA-Retired Annual Meeting
May 5-6, 2017	MEA Spring Rep Assembly
June 28-June 30, 2017 (?)	NEA-Retired Annual Meeting
July 1-6, 2017	NEA Representative Assembly
August 1-3, 2017	MEA Summer Leadership Conference
August 1, 2017	MEA-Retired Summer Leadership Dinner
August 2, 2017	MEA-Retired Summer Leadership Workshop