

# MEA-Retired

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The Commitment Continues

## MEA-Retired Board of Directors' Meeting

MEA Headquarters – MEA Board Room

March 8, 2017

### Minutes

9:30 – 10:00 Coffee

#### Present:

Judy Foster, President  
Daniel Rudd, Secretary/Treasurer  
James Urbanski, Region 2  
Paul Briner, Region 4  
Joellyn Ellis, Region 6  
Margaret Schroder, Region 8  
Jack Minore, 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

Katherine Walker-Telma, Vice President  
Harvey Miller, Past President  
~~Etta Mae Chapman, Region 3 (unexcused)~~  
Anne Good, Region 5  
Larry Smartt, Region 7  
Mary Yedinak, Region 9  
Penny Letts, Region 11  
~~William Papo, Region 13~~  
Kathleen Kelso, Region 15  
Earl Eliason, Region 17

#### Also Present:

Alice Cunningham, Region 13 Alternate  
Richard Trainor, MEA Secretary/Treasurer  
Paul Helder, MEA Retirement/Field Services Consultant  
Lisa Andros, MEA Staff Secretary  
Judy Daley, Region 11  
Jack Ellis, MEA RA Delegate, Region 6  
Robert Letts, MEA RA Delegate, Region 11

#### Absent:

Etta Mae Chapman, Region 3  
William Papo, Region 13  
Bonnie Urlaub, MAHE Liaison

- I. **Call to Order** – Judy Foster, President – Judy called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Paul Briner, Region 4
- III. **Moment of Silence** – Mary Yedinak, Region 9

#### **IV. Introductions**

- V. Announcements** - Dan mentioned that the meeting is being recorded so if you want to speak that you will need to press and hold the button on the mike. If you are moving or seconding a motion, please state your name. Please take your conservation outside the room. He also asked us to please turn off or mute our cell phones. Dan wished "Happy Birthday" to March Birthdays – Timothy McMann, Joellyn Ellis, Kristin Schourek, April Birthday – Elias Chapa, May Birthday – Paul Helder, Jeanne O'Callaghan, June Birthdays – Judy Foster, July Birthdays – Harvey Miller, Earl Eliason, and August Birthdays – Mary Yedinak, Etta Mae Chapman, Kathleen Kelso. Dan said the mileage rate is now \$0.535 per mile. He also walked us through how to fill out the vouchers. The MEA Art Show is going on in the 1216 Building. There were 15 retirees that submitted art work and of those six received awards.

Kay share with us the story of St. Urho's Day which is celebrated by the Finnish on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Jack Minore reminded us that Bastille Day is July 14<sup>th</sup> for those of French origin.

- VI. Seating of Board Members** – It was moved by Jeanne O'Callaghan and seconded by Penny Letts to seat Alice Cunningham as Region 13 Alternate. Motion carried.
- VII. Recognition of Retiring Board Members** – Judy thanked that Etta Mae Chapman and Kathleen Kelso for their years of service on the Board.
- VIII. Adoption of Agenda** - It was moved by Joellyn Ellis and seconded by James Sparapani to adopt the agenda with flexibility. Motion carried.
- IX. Adoption of Minutes** – It was moved by Joellyn Ellis and seconded by Harvey Miller to adopt the minutes of the November 9, 2016 Board meeting as presented. Motion carried.
- X. Officer Reports**
- A. President** – Judy Foster – See written report in the packet. Judy said that she, Kay and Paul attended a meeting yesterday with ORS. They met several new liaisons to our health providers. Judy reminded us that if our members have any concerns that they should let her know, in writing, and that we forward them to the respective person at ORS. She thanked Larry Smartt for the suggestion to have stickers made with our new logo so we will be purchasing them soon.
  - B. Vice-President** – Katherine Walker-Telma – See written report in the packet. Kay briefly talked about several other items in her report.
  - C. Secretary/Treasurer** - Daniel Rudd – See written report in the packet. – Dan mentioned his activity report for the current year. He said the current fiscal year's income is \$248,373 and expenses are \$121,327.

- D. **NEA Director** – Daniel Rudd – See the written in the packet. Dan talked about several items in the report – focusing on the mission, the annual Salute to Excellence in Education Gala, changes in the structure of the RA, Constitution & Standing Rules Amendments, and the Board field trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

## **XI. Staff Reports**

- A. **MEA Retirement/Field Services Consultant** – Paul Helder – No news is good news. The DeVos family have turned their attention elsewhere for the time being. Good news – Pavlov has put forth legislation that would eliminate taxation of pensions. The Governor said that he would veto the bill unless there was a way to replace the loss of income from the pension. He mentioned a “Thank You” from Dr. Michelson for our lobbying efforts.
- B. **MEA Financial Services Director** – Bruce Reaume – Bruce was not able to attend.
- C. **MEA/MEA-Retired Executive Director** – Gretchen Dziadosz – Gretchen thanked us for our calls and letters to the legislators during “lame duck”. She pointed to a couple of items affecting our members – eliminate our right to bargain over calendar (HB4193), assault on pension, as well as other items. On the national level is “Trumpcare”. The Governor’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education Report will be released shortly. She said there a lot to like in the reports as well as a few things we weren’t happy with – but we did modify them the best we could.
- D. **MEA UniServ Consultant & Member/Political Organizer** – Andy Neumann – Andy was not able to attend.
- E. **Other**

## **XII. MEA Officers**

- A. **Steven Cook, MEA President** – Steve was unable to attend.
- B. **Nancy Strachan, MEA Vice President** – Nancy thanked us for all we have done throughout our career as well as what we currently do for students and the organization. “He who shall not be named” that resides in Washington DC would like to institute “Right to Work” across the country as well as eliminate the Department of Education. She spoke briefly about “She who shall not be named” and her stance on public education and education in general.
- C. **Rick Trainor, MEA Secretary/Treasurer** – Rick talked about seating of actives at the upcoming Spring Representative Assembly. He also talked about collection of delinquent dues. He mentioned that due to passing a two-year budget we will not be voting on a budget this year. He said that Dr. Michelson is very pleased with the lobbying efforts of Retirees in Lame Duck as well as other times throughout the year. He reminded us that this is the first year where Retirees can vote for the MEA officers.

## **XIII. Committee Updates**

- A. **Annual Meeting Planning Committee** – Anne Good – Packet Day is March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- B. **Budget Committee** - Daniel Rudd – We met on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> and we’ll be presenting the 2017-2018 Budget latter in the meeting.
- C. **Chapter Development** - Penny Letts – There is nothing to report.

- D. **Chartering and Affiliation** - Daniel Rudd – There is nothing to report.
- E. **Communications/Web Site** – David Schopp – Judy encouraged us to look at our website for updates and information.
- F. **Conference Table Committee** - Daniel Rudd – Kathleen Huey and I manned the table at the Bargaining and PR Conference. We are looking for someone to man the table at the Spring Representative Assembly.
- G. **Constitution, Bylaws and Administrative Policies** - Bill Williams – The officers have given the Committee a couple of charges – language on disaffiliation of Chapters and how to deal with a tie in our elections.
- H. **Elections** - Daniel Rudd – Dan said the report is in the packet.
- I. **Legislative Committee** – Karen Zyczynski – The committee was charged with coming up with a questionnaire for the MEA officer election. Once we receive the questionnaires back the results will be mailed to our MEA-Retired RA delegates.
- J. **Mentoring Committee** – Margaret Schroder – The committee has met and are off to a good start.
- K. **Public Relations** – Harvey Miller – The committee has not met since September.
- L. **MPSERS** – James Pearson – Information is in the Tribune.
- M. **MEA Committees**
  - 1. **MEA Classroom Support Fund** – Elias Chapa – There is nothing to report.
  - 2. **MEA Finance Committee** – James Sparapani – There is nothing to report.
  - 3. **Merger Talks Between MEA and AFT** – Joellyn Ellis – The January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled due to a conflict with State Democratic Party Convention and had not been rescheduled.
- N. **MEA Executive Committee** - Daniel Rudd – I was not in attendance due to being in Hawaii for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary trip.
- O. **Other** –

#### XIV. Unfinished Business

- A. **NEA-Retired Organizing Conference in Dallas, TX** – Daniel Rudd – This will be on March 22-24, 2017. The three officers plus Al Beamish, Anne Good, and Paul Helder will be in attendance.
- B. **MEA Scholarship** – Judy Foster – The dates for this is March 13-17, 2017.
- C. **On-line Election** – Daniel Rudd – Dan went through his visual election report.
- D. **MEA-Retired Annual Meeting** – Judy Foster – Judy said that it is pretty well planned. Our Health Providers will each have a table and will have a chance to address the delegates. We will have our PAC delegate election. We have asked Steve Cook to be our keynote speaker.
- E. **Other**

#### XV. New Business

- A. **Certify the MEA-Retired Election Results** – Daniel Rudd – It was moved by Harvey Miller and seconded by Joellyn Ellis to certify the MEA-Retired Election Results. Motion carried.

- B. Nomination for ESP At-Large Director** – Daniel Rudd –James Sparapani has been nominated. Nominations will remain open until the Annual Meeting.
  - C. Nomination for ESP At-Large Alternate Director** – Daniel Rudd – Pamela DeGryse has been nominated. Nominations will remain open until the Annual Meeting.
  - D. Summer Leadership** – Judy Foster – We are in the process of taking suggestions for what the Presidents may want to learn. The dates are August 1-3, 2017.
  - E. MiARA** – Judy Foster – The newsletter is included in the packet. The next meeting will be March 9, 2017.
  - F. Proposed 2017-2018 MEA-Retired Budget** – Daniel Rudd – Dan walked us through the proposed budget. It was moved by the MEA-Retired Executive Committee to forward the 2017-2018 Budget to the Board of Directors and then to the MEA-Retired Annual Meeting for adoption. It was moved by Jim Urbanski and seconded by Jack Minore to add \$1000 to the Mentoring line item. Motion carried. It was moved by Jack Minore and seconded by Penny Letts to forward the amended 2017-2018 Budget to the MEA-Retired Annual Meeting. Motion carried.
  - G. Actions of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee** – Daniel Rudd - All action items of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee have been acted on today.
  - H. Other**
- XVI. Board of Directors Sharing Time** – Jack Minore and Earl Eliason spoke briefly about redistricting. Harvey Miller urged us to attend the MEA Spring RA as we will be allowed to vote for the MEA Officers.
- XVII. Final Remarks - Officers** – Dan reported that we collected \$76.50 for the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education for a total of \$295.11 for the year. He asked that if you are a delegate to either the MEA Spring RA or the NEA RA and will not be attending to please let him know so that an alternate can be notified.
- Kay wanted to thank us for being kind to her as she tried to fill Judy's shoes at the January Board meeting.
- XVIII. Adjournment** – It was moved by Jeannie O'Callaghan and seconded by Alice Cunningham to adjourn. We adjourned at 1:22 P.M.