

SKSR Board Retreat for 23-24 Year
Lynndale Elementary School

August 17, 2023

Attendees: Acting chair Jim Siscel, Vice President Cathy Webb, Secretary Jan Phillips, Treasurer Jennifer Altena, Patti Boyle, Barb Bumgardner, Linda Fitzgerald, Roberta Hawkins, Tom Hawkins, Karen McElliott, Robin Randles, Rita Requa, Erma Snook

Before the meeting started, Jim read a thank you note from a scholarship recipient. He also asked for help in readying material for a special mailing that was designed to go schools that have not had participants for the grant proposal in the past.

He then opened the meeting by requesting that we stand and join him in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked Cathy for all the work that she did in preparation for this retreat. He then introduced Patti Boyle.

Adoption of Minute from the May Board meeting, the May general meeting and the picnic membership meeting. — Karen had sent out minutes via email for corrections. The May minutes were amended and then approved. The May general meeting minutes were approved without correction. The picnic membership meeting minutes were approved without correction.

Treasurer's report — Jennifer handed out the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 year. This will be voted on after discussion at the end of the meeting.

Key issues discussion — As a result of attending the Convention, Cathy proposed this discussion.

Mission statement review — The mission statement was read in its entirety. She then led a discussion on our feelings about how what we were doing fit into that statement.

Membership engagement — Cathy told us of the poll of retirees that she conducted prior to this meeting. It included questions on how satisfied they were with what we were doing. The results were positive.

Events — to hold or not — Cathy referred to the poll of the members but also talked to the time requirement of a few volunteers who worked to make sure the event was a success. She asked that we table the discussion of the continuation of the luncheons. Rita then moved that we limit the

number of luncheons that we host to two. Erma seconded. Discussion covered not only the amount of volunteer time required but also the problem of finding venues and caterers for the events. Rita called for the question. The vote was 7 in favor of restricting the number to 2 and 6 against. Motion passed. The Scholarship Luncheon will be one of those 2 and will be held in April. A November time frame was suggested for the other Luncheon. Invites to the Superintendents was discussed with the Edmonds Superintendent being invited to the Humanities presentation. A committee of Cathy, Rita, Patti and Linda will meet before the September board meeting to come up with proposals about how this works with our year.

Meal Costs — Linda moved that we increase the meal cost for the luncheon for members to \$10. Tom seconded. Discussion followed including what should be the cost for non-member guests. It was decided not to change that cost. After discussion the motion passed. The costs for no-shows was then discussed. The fact that the 5 no-shows for the May luncheon cost us over \$100 was talked about. There will be an article in the November Bulletin about this problem. The request is that a person tells us they can't come before the deadline for ordering food. Otherwise, they will receive a letter asking for payment. Barbara brought up the problem of serving from the Starbuck's coffee carafes. There are carafes at the storage unit which can be used. She then asked about creamers. She was told to go ahead and purchase some.

Finance — Because the finance information is included in the treasurer's report, it was decided that it could be taken off the regular agenda.

Legislative — Rita talked about the effectiveness of the Legislative Buddies that WSSRA has put into effect. Emails probably had a positive effect on the passing of the Plan 1 COLA for this year. After signing up to be a Legislative Buddy, they receive a blurb from Peter on what the topic is. The person then contacts the state rep/senator about this. If someone wants to do this, they are to contact Rita.

Membership — Jim handed out forms for individuals to put our unit number on. He will then hand out the forms as needed. As of August 8th, we have 1381 members down by 7 from last month but there are 3 pending memberships. We have 320 active members (still in the education field).

Educator grants — Karen reported that she will go over the ground rules with all three districts when it comes time to deliver the checks in early December. In the Bulletin Announcement she will include a sentence that recipients are not limited to classroom teachers. She has updated the information for the grants section on our website which will include a caution that we do not fund staff development, a caution that any application without an itemized budget will be returned and specific language about transportation requests and a statement in the FAQs that grantees are responsible for any cost overruns. She wants to include info about the grants in the materials going out from Jim. She gave specific educator grant budget information to help guide the overall budget discussion.

Health — Robin has written the article for the Bulletin. Discussion followed about the good job she is doing and that she should consider sending her articles to WSSRA for statewide distribution.

Scholarships — Linda handed out a report on the students who will be receiving the SKSR scholarships this fall. They are: Cindy Marin (Shorewood), Sophia Calandrillo (Shorewood), Becca Hershey (Edmonds Woodway) and Sara Lawson (Inglemoor). These are \$2,500 each. The second year students who will be receiving the Winnie Smith \$2,500 scholarships are: Claire Beaumont (Shorecrest), Elia Stroup (Bothell), and Maggie Way(Woodinville). Students who are receiving the third year Winnie Smith \$3,000 scholarships are: Gavin Dalziel (Shorecrest), Charlotte Appel (Meadowdale) and Sofia Lotta (Inglemoor). Amanda Stanley (Lynnwood) will be receiving a fourth-year scholarship for \$3,000.

Sunshine — Barb reported that she sent the following cards. A sympathy card to Diana McQuay on the loss of her husband, a caring card to Jan Phillips, a sympathy card to the family of Allen Haynes, a sympathy to the family of Leslie Kendig, a sympathy card to the family of Jean Otness, a sympathy card to Jim Harvey's wife, Marianne, a sympathy card to the family of John Burbank, a sympathy card to the family of Edward Rice, a sympathy card to the family of Gordon Wilson and a sympathy card to the family of Bruce Clute. She received a thank you card from the Jean Otness family. She also received an email from Diana McQuay who is starting hospice.

Records — Rita thanked Erma for all the work that she has done. Erma reported on why our numbers were different from the ones reported by the state. SKSR has 1075 email members. She sent out 6 messages since May 3rd. In June the Lynnwood Post Office requested different packaging for the Bulk Mailing preparation. If we have very few wrong address returns, they will waive our Bulk Mailing Permit Fee of between \$200-\$250. In June we were able to update our data base with WSSRA's. We continue to get many new members because of WSSRA and our association with AMBA. Our current source of printing is closing so we will need to look for another (to be discussed with the budget discussion). The cost to mail the Bulletin via the post office is \$1.75 per copy.

Website — Jim will update the website

Bulletin — Jo is working on The Bulletin.

Materials handout — Jim handed out new copies of the Table of Contents, the current Board roster, and a 2023-2024 calendar.

Payments for meeting mileage — tabled.

Bulletin Printing changes, vendor costs and mailing — Per Jim's request, we will be mailing 2 copies of the Sept/Oct Bulletin mailing directly to 50 principals for them to use in discussions with their staffs. Then the Bulletins are to be left in the staff room.

Teacher grants discussion on increasing the budget, increasing grant amount —

Karen reported that most of the teacher grant applications are close to the \$300 currently budgeted. Cathy spoke to a possible need for a larger amount. After discussion it was decided to leave the amount at \$300 but to increase the number of grants available.

Legislative Buddy initiative — Rita sent around a sign-up form for those who wanted to participate in the program.

Proposed calendar — This was briefly talked about but given the motion to only offer 2 luncheons, this was put on hold until the committee looks at the whole calendar.

Program ideas/monthly responsibilities — put on hold until committee reports.

Website content — Possible additions to the website were discussed. Jim will write an article about how our members can volunteer in the classroom.

October NW 1 meeting —It will be a combination zoom and live meeting on October 8 in Mt. Vernon. Prospective attendees are: Rita, Karen, Jim, Erma, Tom, Jan and Roberta.

Approve 2023-2024 Budget — Rita moved to approve the 2023-2024 budget with the change in the gifts column from \$500 - \$700. It was seconded. Motion passed. This budget will be presented at the first general membership meeting in the fall for full approval.

September Bulletin — the following articles will be written by:

Board message — Jim

Legislative — Jim

Health — Robin

Educator grants — Karen

Membership changes/Deaths — Erma

Picnic report — Cathy

SKSR Scholarships and Winne Smith updates/news — Linda/Keith

October Brunch has been deleted

Meeting was adjourned before lunch. Lunch was provided by Panera.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Phillips, Secretary