Attendees: Acting Chair Karen McElliott, Secretary Jan Phillips, Linda Fitzgerald, Evie Nordeen, Robin Randles, Virg Rayton, Rita Requa, Jim Siscel, Erma Snook

Acting Chair Karen McElliott called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. All of us joined in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for January 13 —A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report — Jim # reported that the banking account had \$43,641.67 and that the savings account had \$7,781.59. In the Edward Jones account, the Winnie Smith portion had \$126,572.07, down \$4,740.21. The SKSR portion had \$88,226.60, up \$402.41. We received \$2,717 from WSSRA as our portion of the January dues. Thus far we have received \$19,648 (Is this correct). Tom did 8 memorial transfers for members who passed away in January. He has received 2 thank yous for the memorials; one from the lawyer for Kathy Lind and one from Margie Borgert for her husband.

Finance — no further report

Legislative — Jim sent a report out to all members on this. He has since received information that it looks good for passage of the Plan 1 one-time COLA payment and that the Health Care payment will continue at \$183. The other actions are all looking good for passage.

Membership — We currently have 1,363 members which is only down 1. We have 2 retiree applications pending and 4 active applications pending as well. One person has requested to be dropped from membership. However overall we are down 45 from last year. WSSRA is down by over 500. Jim requested that Erma send out notices about the retirement seminars that WSSRA is hosting.

Educator Grants — Karen has contacted all 22 of the recipients as to whether they have received their monies or ordered their requests. She received many thank you notes and read one to us. She will send them

on to Jo for use in the Bulletin. As of this morning she has only received one application from the new members for the grants.

Health — Robin thanked Erma for helping her with writing out a job description.

Scholarships — Linda reported that she had contacted all of the schools within our area about the scholarships. She has also contacted the digital media. The Edmonds and Shoreline papers published the information. The Edmonds and Shoreline District communication directors Indicated that the counselors would have the needed information.

Sunshine — Barb reported that she sent: a sympathy card to the family of Norm Fuhman, a sympathy card to the family of Ray Aust, a sympathy card to the family of Sharron Hetzel and a sympathy card to the family of Mary Ellen Stark.

Records — Erma sent out both the directory and information on WSSRA webinars. We have 1,076 email addresses and 296 street/home addresses.

Website — Jim continued his report on the legislative session. The Plan 1 one-time COLA seems to be passing as does the continuation of the \$183 contribution toward Medicare coasts. The bills dealing with expanding the hours that retirees can work from 867 to 1040 is still in committee. That bill would expire in 2025. The bill to equalize the Health Benefits of Plan 2 died in committee.

Clerical Assistant Update — Linda called and talked with Pat Cygan from Seattle about her experiences with paid staff. First they hired a contractor, not an employee. Currently they have volunteers who take on the duties that they had hired out. They paid by the hour and left open the number of hours each month. Self-direction is a very important skill. One person should be the liaison between us and the contractor rather than a group of people. Computer skills, grammar, and writing ability were very important. They did have an office for the person to work in. They also paid a treasurer to handle the paperwork involved in the hire. Jim indicated that WSSRA has offered to help with that paperwork. They went through 4 - 5 people in the job. Karen's understanding when she wrote the report was that this job would support the President,

Scholarship committee, Grants committee, Membership and Bulletin logistics when we don't have a folding committee. There was much discussion, and it showed that there were assumptions made about which committees and their roles this position would support. Karen will find and send out the monthly responsibilities paper for us to look at for discussion for next month. She will report in the Bulletin that we are still in the process of looking at and doing research on the feasibility, work load and other concerns.

Humanities Washington — Roberta will call and find out how many are coming early next week. Jim, Roberta and the speaker will meet 1 hour earlier than scheduled to check to make sure everything works. The presentation will be next Thursday, February 17.

Directory — Erma had trouble sending out the A - H portion. She has gotten more corrections. She only sent it to the email addressees. The snail mail address will need to opt in in order to get a copy of the Directory. There will be information on this in the upcoming Bulletin. If email addressees want a hard copy of the Directory, there will be a charge of \$5 to cover postage and printing.

NW 1 Board Meeting Report — Jim reported that many of us attended the meeting. The only group that has had a face-to-face meeting in the fall/winter season has been Sno-Isle.

Officers for next year — Jim needs to know who is interested in being an officer. The same holds true for committee chairs. WSSRA is also looking for leadership positions.

WSSRA Willingness to Serve — Rita needs to fill out the form for the Rules and Resolutions position she currently holds.

Picnic — Jan reported that shelter 2 at the City of Edmonds Park has been reserved.

Scholarship Luncheon — Jan needs to send in an article saying that this is still up in the air as to whether it will be held or not. If it is held, we need to decide whether virtual (zoom) or in person. If in person, we need to contact Le Bistro about accommodations.

Chair for March meeting will be Karen.

Karen adjourned the meeting at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Phillips, Secretary