

Sno-King School Retirees Board Meeting Minutes February 9, 2006

Ellie Bonanno called the meeting to order at the Edmonds ESC at 1:10 p.m. Members present were: Marilyn Alaniz, Alice Bingaman, Ellie Bonanno, Gordon Bowers, Jo, Caldwell, Dale Hanberg, Marlene Johnson, Bob Jones, Rachel Lake, Donna Murrish, Betty Odle, Ed Orsborn, Winnie Smith, Erma Snook, Ruthanne, Warren.

The minutes of the November 10, 2006 meeting were read and approved.

Ellie requested that the motion, from the previous meeting (see Nov. 10, 2005, minutes) to discuss procedures for grant selection, be tabled until Rita Requa could be present. Rachel moved and Gordon seconded a motion to that effect. Topic tabled.

Donna Murrish presented the Sno-King 05-06 budget, the General Fund, with updated actual expenditures shown. Ellie reported that a "big hand" was due Donna as we made \$420.00 on Entertainment Book Sales. The budget report was accepted as presented.

In the President's Report, Ellie adjusted and informed us of the following dates:

- February 15 - Membership Meeting at the Foundation House in Bothell
- February 19 - 8 a. m. March Newsletter News Deadline
- February 28 - March Newsletter Folding
- March - Retirement Seminars on March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at ESC
- March 16 - Membership Meeting at Museum of Flight with East King
- March 26 - 8 a. m. April Newsletter News Deadline
- April 4 - April Newsletter Folding
- April 20 - Scholarship Luncheon
- May 19 - 11:30-Noon Joint Meeting w/Sno-Isle at Lynnwood Spaghetti Factory.
- July 21 - Friday Sno-King Picnic at Edmonds Park, Kitchen #2.

Ellie circulated a sign-up sheet for those wishing to attend the Foundation Luncheon on February 16th. Bill Holm, an authority on and artist of Northwest Coast Indian Art, will be the presenter. He will show his own works and tell how they evolve from beginning to end. Ed Orsborn and Dale Hanberg will introduce the speaker and assist in the setting up. At present, 48 guests are expected.

Committee Reports

Health Gordon Bowers shared legislature's concerns with current proposed "gain sharing" bill. They say they will lose \$9 billion over 25 years. He shared a response to his letter urging support for this bill from Senator Matheson, and urged us to follow suit. He also encouraged us to contact our Congressional Senators and Representatives to ask them to be cognizant of the need to "Support the Poor" when considering Bush's new Budget. Gordon said some people's new prescription drug coverage was automatically assigned and left some not able to receive coverage as expected. There were problems to be resolved, amid much confusion. Gordon also cautioned those of us who need a prescription drug plan, to be sure to sign up or have evidence in hand of having equal or better coverage on our own. This could prevent elevated, punitive premiums at a later date, should you need to change plans. He also shared information on geriatric purpura, causing dark spots like bruising as we age.

Gordon received kudos around the table for the interesting and well-written columns he writes. Great job!

Legislative Rachel Lake reported on her lobbying efforts in Olympia. Information she and others provided to legislators, they lobbied (she lobbied 9 legislators), was generally positively received. The main focus of their lobbying effort was two bills: HB2687/SB6453

\$1000.00 Minimum Benefit Improvements Bill and HB2686/SB6454 Age 66 COLA Bill. However, her latest feedback was more pessimistic as hope for funding from current state surplus seemed unlikely. Rachel urged us to continue to contact our legislators and keep our interests before them. If we don't, who will?

Retirement Planning Bob Jones reported on the March Retirement Planning meetings. They will be on every Wednesday in March, 5 sessions. Katie Sherwood, Edmonds, has the program set. Bob asked for two volunteers per session to set up and to assist at displays and to help distribute handouts and to man our teacher scholarship donation station. Several people volunteered to help, more can be used. Virg Rayton has some ready-made signs to use for those meetings.

Sunshine Committee Winnie said she had no new reports. Ellie reported that February 22nd Jim Siscel's wife, Andrea, will undergo cancer surgery.

Program Ed Orsborn will set up the March 16th meeting at the museum of Flight. It will be a joint gathering with East King. He will get information about the tour and notify Ellie and Alice Bingaman will send an invitation to East King. It was decided to tour before lunch and then lunch will be on our own; there is a cafeteria at the museum.

Community Service Project Bob Jones proposed a Spring Food Drive at the April 20th luncheon. The proposal was well-received and accepted. Details will follow.

Bob also reported that the annual two-day Driver's Training Dates had been set for May 22nd and 23rd and also on June 26th and 27th.

Volunteers were needed to interview Veteran, Maurice Stoffer for the State Veterans Recognition Project. For further interviews the form is available on the web site and from Ellie..

Membership Drive Ellie reported that she had conducted Membership Drive presentations at College Place Elem., Meadowdale Elem., Oak Heights Elem, Spruce Elem., and Meadowdale Middle. Appointments have been made also at Martha Lake and Meadowdale Senior. 12 new members were recruited.

In Shoreline, Jim Siscel has set up appointments at Syre, Ridgecrest, Briarcrest, Brookside and Echo Lake Elementaries. Volunteers were recruited to assist at these presentations. Some still needed; contact Ellie Bonanno. Virg Rayton will get enrollment forms to Jim.

NW-1 and WSSRA Executive Board Bob Jones and Jo Caldwell discussed proposed changes to limit delegate numbers per unit to state convention. The proposed changes do not seem to limit our unit's numbers at all. There is also a proposed change in consolidation of committees. There are several plans under consideration. There seemed to be much overlap in responsibilities.

Jo Caldwell reported that the Feb/March Newsletter will contain the last of Rita Requa's Travel Journals. Many expressed their great enjoyment of her articles. Ed Orsborn will take over the travel journaling. There will be two episodes on India and one on Africa. We look forward to those new travels.

Ellie reported on NW-1 news. Governor Gregoire has designated March 20-26 as School Retiree Appreciation Week. Ellie will get information packets to our local Superintendents to share with staff.

NW-1 is seeking a Foundation Representative - Is anyone interested?

Ellie also reported that there was a possibility of an additional 25 cents per member being returned to each unit. Proposal is under consideration.

82 members were reported to have joined to receive AMBA Benefits.

The WSSRA Awards Committee needs our unit's nominee(s) by March 18th. Gordon Bowers urged us to recognize those who have served for so many years and to recognize their continued service. Ellie and Betty Odle will pursue this endeavor.

Nominating Committee

Ellie Bonanno and Ron Robinson will work to gain advertisers for the New Directory coming out in the fall. Volunteers are needed. It was recommended to contact prospective advertisers early to allow time for advertisers to process requests.

Dale Hanberg, Ed Orsborn and Virg Rayton will form a Nominating Committee for the selection of our candidate slate for the June election of officers.

State Foundation Basket We are asked to consider donating a gift basket for the State Scholarship Drive. Last year we donated money. Ideas would be appreciated.

Rachel Lake and Barbara Berg will attend the State Scholarship Committee meeting on March 20th.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Submitted by Erma Snook email: egsnook@comcast.net
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