

SnoKing School Retirees
Board Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Rachel Lake, Coordinator, at 1:35 p.m. at Barlees Restaurant.

Those in attendance were: Cheryl Bauer, Ellie Bonanno, Bob Jones, Rachel Lake, Coordinator, Donna Murrish, Treasurer, Bob Nordeen, Evelyn Nordeen, Betty Odle, Rita Requa, Warren Rowe, and Erma Snook, Secretary.

The first order of business, was a time to honor the memory of Winnie Smith who passed on January 10th at the age of 95. We shared our individual memories. She was fondly remembered for her courage and her steadfastness in supporting our organization. She was a founding member of our Unit. She will be greatly missed.

Rita moved and it was seconded to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Donna Murrish gave the Treasurer's report. She highlighted our Entertainment Book sales. We sold 89 books this year (we usually sell around 70!) and we made \$500.00. She will order the usual 70 books again next year.

There was a discussion about the way money received from the Luncheons was categorized in the Budget. Donna requested permission to enter income from the Luncheons under "Scholarship" heading and eliminate the "Luncheon" heading as all dollars eventually went to the Scholarship via transfer anyway! The Board agreed to leave this to the Treasurer's discretion and Donna said the change would be easier to make when designing the next year's budget.

REPORTS

Legislative Committee Rachel reported that Gain-Sharing is the main and the most difficult focus for this year. We need to be aggressive in protecting an equitable outcome for us in the Legislature. Other topics, this year, are the "Rule of 90" proposal regarding earlier retirement than age 65 and making those who turn 66, and eligible for COLA, able to receive it beginning in July of the calendar year they turn 66. Whatcom County Unit has written an article that explains and clarifies these issues. We have asked permission to use this document in our work.

Membership Committee Virg Rayton has pneumonia and unable to attend the meeting. In his absence Ellie inquired about our plans to get into the schools for membership recruitment, specifically into the schools in Northshore and Shoreline. Rachel listed the school most recently visited in Shoreline and we are good there, so far. We have less success in Northshore and attempts to make inroads there have been met with reluctance.

Retirement Bob Jones reported on the annual Retirement Seminars held at the Edmonds School District Administrative Center and co-sponsored by Edmonds. The seminar is for those active teachers considering and/or readying for retirement. It is held for potential retirees from Northshore, Shoreline, Edmonds and Mukilteo school districts. The seminar dates are: Feb. 21, Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28 from 6-8 p.m. More information is on the web site: www.sksr.org.

Health In Gordon Bower's absence, Warren raised the question about exploring other sources, besides the periodicals Gordon gets, for gathering issues on health. Donna Murrish recommended the Northgate Journal as a good source of health issues. It is published monthly. Other suggestions were hospital publications, and health district publications. Warren will discuss this with Gordon.

Grants Rita presented this year's list of grant recipients. There were 19 of them! Several Board members assisted in distributing the checks to the recipients personally and publicly at a staff meeting. We spent 3789.95 in grants this year at about \$200 each. We have now spent \$14,000 in grants over the years. Rita

suggested next year, as a recruitment effort, to ask the grant recipient in a building to collect any membership forms filled out after our visits.

Rita also reported that our Unit, being the largest in NW-1, gives out the most grants, and we are the only Unit to give out 4 Scholarships to graduating seniors. As of January, 2007, we have 1184 members. There are 3250 members in NW-1.

Sunshine Evelyn Nordeen reported that she sent cards to Sy Siverson and Winnie Smith. She will also send cards to Virg Rayton and Gordon Bowers.

Newsletter Information for February's Newsletter needs to be in by the 21st of January in order to make the deadline. Newsletter Folding will be on January 30th at 10 a.m at the Edmonds Service Center.

OLD BUSINESS

Fall Scholarship Luncheon Betty Odle reported it was a great success. The entertainment was super. A discussion follow on any needs to improve. All areas were adequate. The Spring Scholarship Luncheon will be salads only.

Directory Update We all have new directories! Donna Murrish said it's publication and distribution prompted many to send in their changes. So, in the February Newsletter, we are to note and post these changes in our directories.

NEW BUSINESS

Willingness to Serve Rachel distributed application forms for State Committee memberships. We were encouraged to sign up to be considered. Our Unit needs to be represented.

February 15th General Meeting Ellie reported that she was taking over for Alice Bingaman who has returned to work full time, now. We will meet at the Edmonds Service Center and Ed Orsborn's trip to India will be the program.

Emergency Meeting Rachel reported that she was looking for our support to fulfill a commitment all NW-1 presidents felt was an urgent need. We need to meet to rally support for our legislative issues regarding our pensions. "Priority 1" is gain-sharing and then the "Rule of 90 and COLA adjustment for TRS folks. It was felt that we really need a CLEAR presentation of the issues surrounding gain-sharing in order to encourage everyone to lobby their legislators to support it. NW-1 agreed to conduct a general session of Active and Retired Members on March 31st, Saturday at 10:30-a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Everett PUD auditorium. Rachel is hopeful that at least 50 members from our Unit will attend and we are asked to recruit at least that many.

Rita Requa moved and it was seconded to pay \$150.00 of the \$260.00 it will cost to rent the PUD for this meeting. Motion passed.

Rachel announced that another round of legislative postcards would go out in March.

PEBB - Rachel announced the current State Share of our medical insurance is \$149.60. According to the Governor's proposed budget, that amount would increase to \$165.31 in 2008 and to \$184.26 in 2009.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

We received several thank you notes from grant recipients. They were very appreciative.

We received a note from Connie Hayden's daughter, Nancy Ells, thanking us for the contribution to the Scholarship Fund in her mother's memory.

We also received a letter from the Educational Advocacy Coordinator, Julie Dawning, for Snohomish County through Treehouse and Washington State Department of Children and Family Services. They are looking for one-on-one tutoring volunteers in our area. If you can help, please contact her at 425-339-3991.

Donna Murrish reported that Mary Ellen Gardiner has 102 6-1/2" x 4-3/4" sized envelopes if anyone has a use for them.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Erma Snook, Secretary