

SKSR Board meeting

January 14, 2021

Attendees (via Zoom): Virg Rayton, acting chair, Roberta Hawkins, vice president, Jan Phillips, secretary, Tom Hawkins, treasurer, Cheryl Bauer, Linda Fitzgerald, Karen McElliot, Evie Nordeen, Robin Randles, Jim Siscel

At 1:00pm Virg Rayton, acting chair, called the meeting to order. We joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes for the November 12, 2020 Board meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer' report — Tom reported that we had \$35,266.37 in the account held at Washington Federal. There was \$5,868.49 in the savings account. At Edward R Jones, the Winnie Smith account had \$139,172.30 which was an increase of \$3,769.53. The SKSR scholarship fund had \$79,559.13 and increase of \$1,748.30. There were two memorial transfers. We received \$2,792 from WSSRA for our portion of the dues. Thus far in the fiscal year we have received \$17,276 for dues.

Finance — Cheryl — no additional report

Legislative will be given under D

Membership — Jim reported that we have 1414 members, up from last month by 2 but down by 5 from last year. We have 7 pending retirees, one deceased member and one member requested off. We are still the 2nd largest unit in the state.

Educator grants — Karen reported that we awarded 15 grants for a total of \$3,788. Jim presented the awards via zoom to 4 schools. Checks were sent to the districts on November 19. Karen also communicated this information to the 3 area on-line papers. At the November meeting we agreed to a 2nd round of grants. Applications were accepted from Jan 4 to February 4. There was an announcement in the January Bulletin. It was also posted on the website. She has asked Erma to send out a reminder email about this to our active members.

Health — Robin reported that she had written the first article for the Bulletin and is getting ready to write the second.

Scholarships — Linda and Keith have been getting ready. They put together a packet that was sent to all of the districts' scholarship chairs. It included information about the grants and the forms. Keith has sent information to the Winnie Smith awardees that they must reply by March 19th to renew their scholarship for another year. Linda has also contacted the on-line papers about this opportunity for the area seniors.

Sunshine — Barb reported that she sent: a sympathy card to the family of Donna Fish, a sympathy card to the family of Rodger Reinig, a sympathy card to the family of Scott Farquhar, a caring card to Tom Hayes (stem cell transplant for leukemia), a sympathy card to the family of Gene Forrester, former president for WSSRA, and a sympathy card to the family of Deborah Montague.

Records — Jim reported that on November 23 local retirees were sent information on PEBB. On December 29th the Bulletin was emailed. SKSR has contributed 1,087 email addresses to WSSRA. WE are the leading contributor. We send 367 copies of the Bulletin via U. S. Post Office.

Website — Jim reported that he continues to upgrade the website on a regular basis.

Bulletin — no report

Business

February Program — Humanities Washington Speaker on Chief Seattle — Roberta reported that she had sent out press releases, invited legislators to the talk. She has been in contact with WSSRA staff on the process of doing the webinar and has contacted the speaker. There is a link for registering for the program in the January Bulletin. She will need someone to write an article for the Bulletin.

March Field Trip — Karen led a discussion about whether she should continue to watch for an opening at the Asian Art Museum. It was moved and seconded that we cancel the field trip this year due to COVID 19 concerns. The motion passed.

By Laws changes — There only minor changes needed in the By-Laws so that can wait until next year. However, we still have not had the general membership vote on this year's budget. After discussion, Roberta moved that:

“Due to the ensuing circumstances preventing a general membership meeting of the SKSR members, the SKSR Board moves to continue operating on the Board approved Proposed Budget for the remainder of this fiscal year”. Motion passed. Members will be informed of this vote via the Bulletin. The article will give them the opportunity to see the budget and if requested a copy of the budget will be sent to them.

Assigning legislators to members — WSSRA proposed that individual members be assigned a legislator that they will write to once a week. Because of COVID restrictions they felt that this would continue to make the legislators aware of our needs. Peter will furnish a talking point letter each week that can be sent to each legislator. The following assignments were accepted. Jim will contact Ryu, Rita will contact Kloba, Karen will contact Marko Lilas, Evie will contact Peterson, Sno-Isle will contact Ortiz, Virg will contact Solomon and Robin will contact Davis. There will be an article in the Bulletin about this effort and will ask for volunteers. It was decided that having more than one person per legislator would be fine. Jim is also going to have Erma send out an email about this opportunity.

NW 1 Scholarship Readers — Karen has received information on this and will be our contact. It would be nice to have one more person doing this.

School Retiree’s week — Roberta read a state proclamation from Governor Inseele. This will take place the week of March 15 - 21.

The email system used to email the Bulletin and other messages could no longer do the job. A system needs to be put into place that does the job. It was moved and seconded that we research a new email provider and system and purchase what is needed. Motion passed. Erma has researched this. She has set up a new email, information@sksr.org as our email. There are security features as well as transferability which was not present in the old system. We will use this new system for 6 months and have a report back. Tom reported that this change would probably cost less than \$500. Motion passed.

Calendar — In the past Jim would purchase 75 calendars to give away to members at meetings. This year he used emails to find people who wanted one. He used the US Postal Service to deliver the calendars. He would like to purchase 90 calendars for the 2021-2022 year and use the same system to give them away. He estimated the cost to be less than \$250. It was moved and seconded that he purchase them for next year. Motion passed. He also would

like to purchase 4 Dr. Seuss T-shirts to be randomly awarded to active members. A motion was made and approved.

April Program (Scholarship Luncheon/ General Meeting)— Linda discussed the logistics of how a Zoom meeting could be held with a speaker. She will work with Jim and Margery (the speaker) to plan how this will happen. She also reported that students have until March 11 to apply for this year's scholarships.

Roberta asked that someone will need to write up the February speaker webinar for the Bulletin.

Bulletin Articles were assigned. An additional item on the Proposed Budget was added.

Evie. Bill Holmes, Betty Odle's brother, recently passed away. The Seattle Times chose to honor him as an outstanding figure in the field of Culture of the NW Indians.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Phillips, Secretary