

Unamended
Minutes

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April '3

Sno-King School Retirees Board Meeting
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March 9, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Ellie Bonanno at 1:07 p.m. Those members present were: Cheryl Bickford, Ellie Bonanno, Gordon Bowers, Marlene Johnson, Donna Murrish, Betty Odle, Ed Orsborn, Virg Rayton, Rita Requa, Warren Rowe, Erma Snook, and Winnie Smith.

Rita Requa moved and Virg Rayton seconded a motion to accept the minutes as read. Motion approved.

Donna Murrish presented a Treasurer's Report. She reported that the General Fund Balance is \$7805.80.

The Scholarship Account has a \$1072.30 balance.

Ellie presented an update for our calendars:

Calendar

March 9	Board Meeting
March 16	General Meeting at Museum of Flight with East-King
March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	Retirement Seminars
March 26	Newsletter Deadline
April 4	Newsletter Folding
April 13	Board Meeting
April 20	General Meeting – Scholarship Luncheon, 12 Noon, Edmonds Unitarian Luncheon
May 11	Board Meeting
May 19	General Meeting – Sno-Isle hosts us at the Lynnwood Spaghetti Factory
June 5-7	WSSRA Convention in Yakima

There were two update/corrections to the roster.

Ellie Bonanno: email address: ejb2026@verizon.net

Virg Rayton: email address: rayton@eskimo.com

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March Meeting

Ed Orsborn reported on the status of the March Meeting plans at the Museum of Flight. Entertainment Book coupons (2-for-1) may be used for admittance in combination with a \$6.50 subsidy from our treasury to cover the \$13.00/ person entry fee. The museum will provide 1 docent per each 25 attendees. The tour begins at 10:30 a.m. We will be hosting East King

Ellie reported that East King would like us to meet jointly in the future. Betty Odle reported on the history of those joint meetings. The feeling was expressed that over the 10 year history of joint meetings, the connections between the units had changed. Betty moved and Donna Murrish seconded a motion to drop the co-meeting arrangement in the future. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Health: Gordon Bowers reported on several health issues. They included coughing, the benefits and when it signals a need for further attention. He alerted us to the risks of hearing loss associated with MP3-like players and the volume being too loud. He also alerted us to the extreme stress suffered by care-givers and to a report urging doctors to give as much concern for the care-giver as for the one needing the care. There are very definite stages of stress elevation for the care-giver and may be life threatening.

Legislative: In Rachel Lake's absence, Ellie reported that we are encouraged to write to thank our legislators for the bills they passed on our behalf, and to encourage them to keep our interests in the forefront again next year. The legislature passed the Minimum Benefit bill and also passed a 5-year-vesting +44 years plan for Plans 2 and 3. They also took care of our pension fund unfunded liability. They did not pass the 66-year old COLA, nor the Gain Sharing.

Retirement Planning: Ellie had attended the last session on Wednesday, March 8. There were only 65 attendees. The low number in attendance may be attributable to many finding they cannot afford to retire.

Sunshine: Winnie Smith reported that Jim Siscel's wife, Andrea was recovering well from her surgery.

Program: April Meeting: Bob Jones had proposed a Food Drive Community Service Project for the April meeting. We will send the donations to the Food Bank at the Edmonds Methodist Church. The music program will be arranged by Dale Hanberg. Cheryl Bickford reported on the Scholarship Luncheon plans. She circulated a sign-up for the Luncheon and a sign-up for food donations for the Salad Luncheon. Please contact her if you have not signed up, yet. There are always needs for help setting up and cleaning up, besides.

School Retirees: Governor Gregoire has declared March 20-26 School Retirees Appreciation Week. Betty Odle reminded us that if you plan to send cookies or flowers to your school or in some way honor the event, March 20th is a Shoreline District Teacher Work Day and might be a good date to choose. March 17th is the work day in the Edmonds School District.

Membership: Virg Rayton reported on the many membership drive school visits that had occurred and on the upcoming ones. There were 7 new members from Shoreline recruited since last month and 2 or more from Edmonds. He said he uses a selling point presented to him by Richard Yule. His approach is that in the past decade, some retirees have gained as much as \$11,000 due to the School Retiree Legislative efforts. It applied to those who were eligible for COLA in 1995, received PEBB health supplement program, received increases from 2005 Legislative session and received a Gain Sharing distribution in 1998 and 2000. This is a good return on a \$5/month dues investment.

Our unit is down in membership by three members over last year, 1183 members last year, 1180 this year, as of February 1, 2006. Some newer members were not reflected in that number. Virg extended thanks and appreciation for Ellie's assistance in the membership drive this year. He welcomed the assistance as he has had to assume an increased long distance care-giving role for his mother.

Grants: Rita Requa explained the grant selection process. Generally, the amount of each grant is up to \$200.00. The application form is quite informal. We usually have a \$1200-\$1400 budget. Most years the budget is adequate. If we have more requests than funds, she evaluates whether the applicant received a grant the previous year. And, in some cases the amount is allowed to go slightly over the \$200 if funds are available and the request has merit. Grants are awarded in the fall.

Change here

NW-1 and WSSRA Exec: Rita reported that they had agreed to support the reduction in the number of committees and to support other Selection Committee recommendations. There has been concern expressed by David Thurman over a breach of the Bylaws regarding the Secretary being named a member of the Rules and Resolutions Committee.

Scholarship Foundation Basket For State: Ellie suggested that we put together a Mariner's Basket. All seemed to like that idea as our Unit's contribution. Rita Requa moved and Betty Odle seconded a motion to purchase Club Level tickets for the basket. Motion approved. Anyone having Mariner donations for the basket, contact Ellie Bonanno.

Nominating Committee: The committee members are: Dale Hanberg, Virg Rayton, and Ed Orsborn. Virg will chair this committee.

WSSRA Awards: Nominees for awards from our unit will be submitted by Ellie and Betty Odle by March 18.

Good of the Order

Betty Odle requested that we look into a larger space for Newsletter folding, even if it meant meeting in the afternoon. Ellie will ask the contact person at the Administrative Center what we can arrange.

Marlene Johnson encouraged us to visit the Edmonds Museum display of Senior Citizen Hobbies. Bob Jones and his choir have a photo display there. Very nice!

Cheryl Bickford shared a very interesting turn of events as a result of her identity theft. Great story!

Thanks to Ellie for the life-sustaining Easter Egg Candies!!

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m. Minutes by Erma Snook