

SNO-KING SCHOOL RETIREES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER, 13, 2011

Those Present: Ellie Bonanno, Erma Snook, Evelyn Nordeen, Alice Bingamon, Jim Siscel, Rachel Lake, Rita Requa, Betty Odle, Donna Murrish, and Cheryl Bauer

Call to Order: Jim Siscel called the meeting to order at 1:00 and then led us in the flag salute. Jim had purchased a Washington State flag and a new United States flag. Thanks, Jim, we are indeed both a state and national organization.

Secretary's Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting, as well as the September 15 General Meeting, were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Donna went over the report and mentioned that we had sold over \$1500 worth of Entertainment Books.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Unit of Distinction: This has been tabled until November when more clarification is made.

Email Permission Letter: This was talked about at NW 1 as well as among ourselves. After much discussion, it was decided that we will send it as a separate mailing. Jim will check with COSTCO and a place he uses in Kirkland on the exact cost. Funding could come from Legislative budget. The purpose of the letter is to get legislative information to members via email if permitted during the upcoming legislative session.

How to Increase Meeting Attendance:

1. Personal contact.
2. Contest to see who can bring in the most people.
3. Put in notice about luncheon the possibility of being to help someone who may need a ride.
4. Jim will personally call new members.
5. Mention in the newsletter that RSVP's are appreciated for planning purposes, however, last minute attendees are always welcome.
6. Will set up call list for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Schedule an Audit: Contact Dave Johnson and/or Dick Stucky to help with this.

November General Meeting: The luncheon is November 17 at the Unitarian Church. The cost is \$5.00 if you bring food and \$7.00 if you don't. The sign up sheet was passed around. The program is a Civil War Reenactment as well as a few words from the two school district superintendents.

NW 1 Report: Jim read a letter that Roberta had written. It is attached to the minutes. There were eight that attended from our unit. Be sure to check the PEBB information that is coming out as there will be changes to the coverage.

Bus to Seismology Lab: This event is limited to 30 people. Jim contacted Bob Jones and we will be able to use the Senior Center Bus at the cost of \$10 per person. This bus holds 24 and Jim can take five in his van. This event is February 16, so we will discuss the details at our January meeting.

Bus to Convention in Spokane: There was some talk at NW 1 about having a bus start in Bellingham and working it's way down picking up people along the way. It would cost about \$70 per person. More details to come as we know how much will be reimbursed by the state, etc.

December Cookie Fest and Sing-a-Long: Jim showed us a sample of the flier he'd made. The event is December 8, and we would need RSVP's by December 5.

Healthy Walk: The next walk is October 19 at 9:00 at the Edmonds Pier. Jim is sharing more information in the bulletin.

Newsletter: Deadline for information to Dave Johnson is October 21 with the mailing on October 31.

Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity: Jim may go and do a sample run. A group size is usually 15-25 people. More info as the date gets nearer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Nothing to report at this time.

Legislative: The email permission letter was the legislative news for this time.

Membership: As of October 1, we had the second most members in the state with 12,013 members and 17 pending.

Grants: There are three so far with the expectation of many more coming after the bulletin comes out.

Sunshine: Evie sent a caring card to Fred Cochran. She also read a "thank you" card from Virg Rayton and his sons.

Health: Gordon was unable to attend.

Good of the Order:

Erma read two notices she had received. One had to do with the National Association of Elementary School Principals giving you an opportunity to submit a children's book you may have written.

The other had to do with a drawing for \$20 gift cards from NRTA as "thank yous." Erma will send out the information as it becomes available.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Submitted by,
Cheryl Bauer

NW1 COORDINATING COUNCIL

Eight SKSR members, Jim Siscel, Rita Requa, Betty Odle, Barbara Berg, Erma Snook, Donna Murrish, Virg Rayton and Roberta Hawkins, attended the N.W. 1 Coordinating Council meeting on Oct. 10th in Mt. Vernon. After the call to order each Unit gave a brief update including its goals and annual activities. Eileen Wascisin NW1 District Representative reported on the August WSSRA Executive Board meeting providing details regarding membership numbers and critical state concerns and needs. Of particular importance is close and careful reading of all PEBB information that you receive. Changes in plans, elimination of plans, and increase in costs are all things that are coming. Look at all the details.

Marianne Harvey introduced guest speakers Ed Gunion, WSSRA Executive Director, and Fred Yancy, WSSRA Lobbyist. Gunion addressed the issues of membership and the need for increased active participation at both local and state levels. He especially emphasized the need to contact legislators during the “off-session” time, as they get very busy when in session. He spoke of the major personnel changes in the state WSSRA office especially the departure of Legislative Coordinator Lesley Main, whose position they hope to fill by Dec. 1. He stressed the difficulty of filling 18 years of experience, which Main has given to WSSRA. One additional issue he noted was the Gain Sharing lawsuit being pursued by WEA and Washington Federation of School Employees. WSSRA has a major stake in the outcome of this, as it will affect our future actions regarding PLAN 1 COLA. The next meetings will be January 9, 2012 and March 5, 2012.