

Sno-King School Retirees Association
Executive Board Meeting
Minutes
September 14, 2006

Rachel Lake, Coordinator, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Those in attendance were: Alice Bingaman, Ellie Bonanno, Gordon Bowers, Rachel Lake, Coordinator, Donna Murrish, Treasurer, Bob Nordeen, Evelyn Nordeen, Betty Odle, Virg Rayton, Rita Requa, Ron Robinson, Warren Rowe, and Erma Snook, Secretary.

The minutes of the August Planning Board Meeting were distributed. Rita Requa moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

REPORTS

2006-2007 Calendar

Rachel distributed a comprehensive calendar of Newsletter deadlines, folding dates, Board Meeting dates and General Meetings dates and their programs. A discussion and corrections followed. A Roster of the Board Members was circulated for corrections. Final copies of both will be distributed at the October Board Meeting. (See Attached drafts).

NW - 1

Rita Requa reported on the last WSSRA Board Meeting. We have two unit members who are NW-1 Representatives to State Committees: Ellie Bonanno, Legislative and Bob Jones, Community Service. There are some committee openings for Membership and Retirement Planning.

Leslie Main is very ill. She has been a huge resource and researcher for our state organization. Sending cards is appropriate.

On September 18th the interviews for a State Lobbyist will begin.

Healthcare packages will be mailed out to members at the end of September.

Bob Rhule, State Legislative Chair, says that the unfunded liability problem the state has with our pension plans is not our fault. We paid our part in contributions as we went along. It is the state's fault and we need to advocate for our due. The most effective influence we can exert on our legislators is by email. Our email blitz to the Governor earlier was successful. One important focus to contact legislators about is gainsharing. Resource information to use in our emails is available at the WSSRA web site under Legislative goals and explanations and the September/October WSSRA Journal. Another resource is available through a letter by Ray Smith (Edmonds Retired) who wrote an outstanding letter to Governor Gregoire about COLA. Alice Bingaman has copies.

Membership Expansion

Virg Rayton reported on our recent participation in District Benefit Fairs in Shoreline and Edmonds. He said we gained 10 new members and sold 10 Entertainment Books. Several new members were interested in applying for grants. Virg suggested we have application forms available next year. The Benefit Fair was very successful and we hope to include Northshore next year.

Membership figures for September 1st indicate that our membership is at two less than last year. We are at 1155. We have two members pending, and 10 new ones to add on!

Virg will send personal invitations to the new retirees in Northshore, Edmonds and Shoreline to come to the September meeting. (Letter Attached) He hopes we will recognize those folks at the meeting and suggests we invite them to our Scholarship Luncheon in November as a recruitment effort.

Grants

Rita Requa made a motion and it was seconded to extend the closing deadline for grant applications to November 15th. A discussion followed that this was desirable to take advantage of advertising grants in our October/November Newsletter. Motion passed.

Health

Gordon Bowers circulated a 48-year old School Newsletter that announced Rachel Lake's upcoming nuptial.

Gordon shared several articles. They were on: the Hispanic Paradox on longevity, proposal that people with incomes of \$80,000 or more pay more toward Social Security, the Ray Smith letter on COLA, national elder sleep deprivation as relates to health, and cautioned us to be careful of our balance after getting new eye glasses. And last, but not least, several super examples of age as being only a "state of mind."

Gordon reported on the complicated saga of obtaining pedometers for the Washington Health Foundation drive to become the "Healthiest State." Between September 18th and November 1st we are striving (as a state) to accumulate 2.5 million walking miles. The pedometers to register your walking distance are \$5.00 and will be for sale at the September 21st General Meeting. Erma Snook is to order and bring 15 pedometers to sell at the meeting. To record the miles you walk you may sign up online under the WSSRA Organization and our SnoKing Unit, or report your logged miles periodically to Erma Snook who will enter them for our Unit. Contact her at egsnook@comcast.net or 425-776-2067.

Web Site Update

Rachel Lake reported for Bob Jones that the website is all set up for the year.

Sunshine

Evelyn Nordeen reported sending notes to and there were thank yous from Sharon Potts and Alice Bingaman. Evelyn reported that Winnie hoped Evelyn would take the lead for Sunshine Committee this year.

Treasurer's Report

Donna Murrish distributed a Treasurer's Report (See Attached). She reported that our original thought that there was one outstanding Scholarship check proved not to be fact and that the \$3000 Scholarship Endowment number was accurate.

Donna reported that we have sold 34 Entertainment Books. She said that traditionally the money from books went toward the Scholarship Fund. Ellie expressed an interest in including money from the sales for Grants also. A discussion followed about whether the dollars could go towards grants. Advertising that grant money came from Entertainment Book sales was good for recruiting members, too. It was agreed that the money from the Entertainment Book sales could be used to benefit both the Grant and Scholarship Funds as the monies for both are all part of the General Fund.

Gordon Bowers suggested that we focus some advertising on our Scholarship Drive as it reflects positively on our SKSR work. We need to take better advantage of advertising opportunities.

OLD BUSINESS

September 21st Meeting

Rachel reported on the program for the meeting. Two legislators, Rep. Ruth Kagi of the 32nd District and Senator Paul Shin from the 21st District and Ed Gonion, Executive Director of WSSRA will be a panel to discuss legislative State Retirement Issues. Rep. Kagi will explain results of last year's efforts. Sen. Shin, who is very receptive to our cause, will give the Senate perspective, and Mr. Gonion will speak about our concerns and initiatives for the legislature.

We want a good crowd. We are all encouraged to bring two or three guests. We want to show knowledgeable interest on lost purchasing power, gainsharing, COLA and full funding of the Pension System. The September/October Issue of the WSSRA Journal has good information.

Benefit Fairs

Ellie Bonanno reported that the Fairs were successful. Katie Sherwood, Edmonds, thanked us for being there and said our raffle contribution of two Entertainment Books was very popular. She invited us back next year.

Directory Update

Ron Robinson reported good progress had been made in getting the directory ready for printing. We already have three advertisers: Marilyn Irwin, Windermere Real Estate, ~~Turito~~ ^{Bothell} Financial Services and Foundation House. They generate \$1500 and the last printing cost about \$1800. There are some advertisers pending. The official deadline for going to press is up to Bruce Caldwell and his availability, probably near the end of September. Distribution is tentatively set for the end of November. We will mail the directories under separate cover. Ron reminded us to patronize our advertisers!

Turwedo

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter Editor

Dave Johnson has agreed to be our Editor. He would like articles for the Newsletter about two weeks in advance of publication.

Rita Requa moved and it was seconded that SnoKing purchase a Publishing Program of Dave's choice for his editing work. Motion passed. It was advised that the program be compatible with Bruce Caldwell's. The \$100 payment per issue to Dave will be issued by Treasurer, Donna Murrish after each issue.

October/November Meeting Chair

At Evelyn's request, Rachel Lake will chair the October and November Board Meetings. Evelyn Nordeen will host the November Luncheon.

Evelyn Nordeen reported on the November Meeting. The musical pirates were unavailable. As an alternate, she recommended an excellent trio. Rita Requa moved and it was seconded to pay \$240 for the trio entertainment. Motion passed. They will perform for 45 minutes.

Rita Requa moved and it was seconded to add \$600 to the Program Budget for 2006-07 year. Motion passed. The total Program Budget is now \$900.00.

Fall Scholarship Luncheon

We will discuss the final plans for the Luncheon at the October 12th Board Meeting. Betty Odle reported that she and Cheryl Bickford will have a sign up for the Potluck Luncheon at the October Meeting. Extra people are always needed for set up and clean up.

It was decided that the February General Membership Meeting celebrating WSSRA's 60 Birthday, will be a luncheon. Alice Bingaman is in charge.

Ron Robinson said he would share, via email, some good tips on email protocols.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Erma Snook, Secretary