

Board Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2014
Sno-King School Retirees

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. by President, Cheryl Bauer.

Those in attendance (9) were: Cheryl Bauer, Linda Fitzgerald, Roberta Hawkins, Donna Murrish, Evie Nordeen, Virg Rayton, Rita Requa, Jim Siscel, Erma Snook.

The minutes of the August Retreat were read and corrections made. Rita Requa moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

Donna Murrish presented the monthly Treasurer's Report.

Cheryl commented that though we don't need to have written committee reports every meeting, for the Retreat, it was very helpful.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee Cheryl reported that the balance in the Winnie Smith Scholarship Account was \$173,053.52. Donna Murrish and Cheryl had the annual meeting with Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Paula Fedirchuk. \$12,000.00 was set aside for the Scholarship Renewals and \$20,000 was moved to a money market account to balance and meet our risk profile. Kudos to Paula for her great service

Legislative Rita Requa reported that she had already sent us a list of the candidates endorsed by WSSRA Board of Directors. In the Legislative Districts Rita is assigned to lobby, Districts 1, 21, 32, all candidates were endorsed. The one open-seat candidate, Strom Peterson, met with Rita and she presented WSSRA goals and Pension Plan information. He was supportive. Rita distributed copies of the State Supreme Court ruling on the Gain Sharing and COLA lawsuit for our information. In the McCleary Supreme Court Ruling, the state has been held in contempt of court for not submitting a plan to fully fund education. However, the state has this next legislative session to comply. WSSR-PAC sent SKSR a receipt for our PAC donation from Picnic raffle.

Membership Jim Siscel reported that our membership, as of Sept 1, was 1279 with 12 pending. Jim reported that staffers signed up 4 new members at the Shoreline Benefit Fair in Shoreline, and met the new Superintendent, Rebecca Miner. Jim discovered that WSSRA sent a request to all school districts for the names and addresses of recent retirees. Shoreline responded with a list, Northshore declined, Edmonds declined, but Jim worked with Edmonds HR, Hasani Wiggins, and they will send membership information to retirees for us. Jim has already received one member from that effort. The Edmonds Benefit Fair staffers sold 5 Entertainment Books, and got no new members. The location of the SKSR table was not good, this year, for visibility. It was felt that regardless of successes at the Benefit Fairs, our presence was positive.

We are discouraged by the inability to attend the Benefit Fair in Northshore. Inroads for gaining new members there are difficult to make. However, meetings with the Superintendent,

Larry Francois, have always been positive. Jim has had a conversation with Larry about sending an SKSR information message out to principals. President, Cheryl, Membership Chair, Jim, and Northshore Member, Evie will try to meet with Superintendent Francois to discuss an improved path forward. We do have some grant recipients from Northshore that we can use as a building block.

Grants Virg Rayton reported that this is Grant season. He wrote an article for the Bulletin. The deadline for applications is November 6, 2014. Recipients will be notified by Thanksgiving and grant checks are to be delivered in Dec. or Jan.

Scholarships Linda Fitzgerald will send Jim Siscel an updated list of Scholarship recipients to be posted on our Web Site. Applications will be open in January at \$1500 renewable. She expressed a hope that, this year, we would receive applications from Northshore and Shoreline as well as Edmonds. A renewing scholarship recipient, Kevin Miller (2013), sent a thank you letter.

Sunshine Evie Nordeen reported that she sent sympathy cards to the families of: Frances Weaver and Walter Somers. She also sent a sympathy card to Ron Lehman (passing of his wife) and to Harry Robinson (loss of his daughter). Caring cards were sent to Tom Traeger, Marlene Johnson, Gary Reul, and Ken and Rachel Lake.

Outreach Rita Requa reported on an outreach opportunity for us to assist in "Shoreline Day For You" and/or "Back To School" event in Edmonds. Rita's daughter has been instrumental in assisting and starting these programs that provide school supplies, health support, shoes and haircuts, etc., for low-income families. They need volunteer help at events in late August.

Linda Fitzgerald reported a new outreach program starting this fall in Edmonds called "Nourishing Network" for free and reduced lunch families to receive meals for weekends and to receive some school supply support.

We would like to hear more about how to help and Cheryl asked if we could invite a speaker or write an article for the Bulletin. We have members who especially enjoy participating if it is a service project.

Unfinished Business

October Meeting The October Luncheon is set. Rita has secured Alice Miller as our program and Cheryl has contacted Chef Becky at Le Bistro to get menu choices to publish in the Bulletin.

November Meeting Cheryl reported that Peter Diedrick, WSSRA Legislative Coordinator, will be our speaker. There will be some music performance to be determined. Details will be solidified at the October Board Meeting.

Directory Jim Siscel presented a sample phoning script and a data recording sheet for contacting non-email members to verify their contact information (address, phone, email) before we print and distribute the new Directory after the first of the year. We will also ask if they want a directory, want their information in the directory and if they wish to receive an annual updated

Directory in PDF format. Calling will begin in November. There will be 450 members to contact. Those volunteering to help make calls were: Erma Snook, Virg Rayton, Linda Fitzgerald, Donna Murrish, Rita Requa, Evie Nordeen, Roberta Hawkins, and Jim Siscel. The committee will meet before calling begins.

New Business

Entertainment Books Donna reported that books had arrived and are ready for sale. The price is \$35 and Erma will keep a supply available while Donna is on vacation. The agent Donna is working with is less than helpful. Someone is selling Books for \$25. Donna is looking into our profit on each book and suggested pricing.

Honorary Membership Cheryl will be submitting two members, Betty Odle and Phyllis Fiege, to be considered for Honorary Membership. Members are eligible at age 90 with notable service to SKSR and/or WSSRA.

Field Trips Cheryl said that she was pursuing the Goodwill field trip arrangements. We will ask at the upcoming luncheons about other possibilities. Jim suggested a Wine and Cheese Tasting event. We would contact a winery in Woodinville to host the event. Good to have an event in the Northshore area. It was decided to pursue a Saturday in February, 4-6 p.m. Jim will investigate possibilities.

Other meeting program ideas were discussed, a travel panel of well-travelled members, perhaps with a travel agent invited; also, a Library Book program at the Edmonds library was mentioned. Cheryl will put out a small survey at the October luncheon to see "What Would You Attend?"

Dues Increase Jim presented a rationale for requesting a \$1 state and a \$1 local dues increases. It has been 13 years since an increase has occurred. All costs to run state and local organizations have increased over this time. Jim moved and it was seconded that the proposal for WSSRA and Unit dues increase, as presented, be adopted for presentation at the October, 2014, NW-1 meeting. Motion passed. It is hoped that NW-1 will approve the request and send it on to WSSRA Executive Board.

September news articles for the Bulletin were discussed. Deadline is September 19.

Good of the Order: Rita shared that Barb Bumgardner, who attended our Retreat in August, was impressed with the breadth of the work we do and the energy behind it. She is invited to write a Bulletin article about her impressions.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Erma Snook, Secretary Pro tem