

## SKSR Board Meeting September 12, 2019

Attendees: Jim Siskel, (meeting chairperson); Vice President Roberta Hawkins, Treasurer Tom Hawkins, Erma Snook, Linda Fitzgerald, Evie Nordeen, and Karen McElliott (secretary for this meeting)

Jim Siscel, chair of the meeting, called the meeting to order and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the August 8 Planning Retreat were accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report**—The Washington Federal checking account: \$20,088.32; the scholarship savings: \$22,242.80, which is a drop of from last month; the Edward Jones/Winnie Smith account: \$136,143.77, a result of scholarship dispersal; the SKSR account: \$47,781.25, an increase of \$326.96. He posted six memorial transfers in the last month: Marian Kinch, George Sutlman, Kenneth Ball, Gerry Geschke, Nelsie McLeod, Esther Sellers. All scholarship checks have been cashed except for one (\$2,000), which is waiting for a transcript. WSSRA has sent a notification to the IRS about our non-profit status. SKSR's insurance policy is up for renewal in December.

### **Committee Reports**

**Legislative Committee**—Jim reported no update.

**Membership Committee** – Jim reported that as of September 3 we have 1,421 members, which down 10 members from August, and there are another seven new memberships pending.

**Educator Grants** – Karen McElliott reported that she has not received any grant applications. Also, no emailed questions or concerns.

**Scholarships** – Linda Fitzgerald reported that an essay would be added to the scholarship application. (See Business.) Each member received a spreadsheet of past and current scholarship winners showing institution attended and amounts awarded. Jim read a letter from Joanna Schroeder, a Winnie Smith scholarship recipient starting her second year of college; she wrote about her educational studies and thanked SKSR for its support.

**Sunshine** – Evie Nordeen sent a caring card to Erma Snook and sympathy cards to the families of Kenneth Ball, Gerry Geschke, Nelsie J. MacLeod,

and Esther Sellers. Two of the cards (i.e., McLeod and Sellers) were returned to Evie.

Records – Erma Snook reported no big general emails were sent in the last month. The September *Bulletin* was folded and mailed the day after Labor Day; 11 members helped in the folding, and the work went fast. 358 bulletins are mailed; 1,088 sent by email. Current postage costs: \$0.146 for bulletins mailed to zip codes 980-- to 982-- and \$0.184 to those outside those areas.

Website—Jim noted that the website is up-to-date.

### **Business**

Updated Rosters – Jim passed out revised copies of the Board Roster, the 2019-2020 Calendar by Events (events listed by type of event) and the Calendar 2019-2220 SRSR (events listed by month).

October Luncheon (Oct. 17) – It was reported that the menu will be a choice of chicken Dijon or braised short ribs. Nickie Leith will speak on elder law; it was decided that we would present her with a \$100 honorarium. We also decided that we would not have a wine drawing. Superintendent Rebecca Miner will give an update on Shoreline School District.

November Brunch (Nov. 14) – It was reported that the menu will be individual quiches (egg, cheddar, and vegetables); grilled ham and bacon; fruit platter; pastries. Keith Lindaas, representing AARP, will speak on cybercrime. Northshore Superintendent Michelle Reed also will speak.

Proposed Scholarship for Active Members –Roberta reported on the group that is doing the groundwork for establishing a scholarship for active members who are actively working on either an advanced degree or National Board Certification. They created a list of tasks that need to be in place before the scholarship can be offered and a list of eligibility qualifications for applicants. In addition to these lists it was decided that the application needs to include an essay (maximum of 500 words) describing the applicant’s financial need and educational goals. It was agreed that the next issue of the SKSR *Bulletin* should advertise for a chairperson for this new committee.

Changes in the SKSR Scholarship Policies and Procedures--

1. Essay added to application and requirement to attend a Washington

school deleted. After a brief discussion, the revision of Article 1 Section 2 was moved, seconded, and approved.

2. Amount of 4<sup>th</sup> year of Winnie Smith Increased (\$2,500): After a brief discussion, the revision of Article II Section 2 was moved, seconded, and approved.

Policy on Information from Others – Jim presented a new Article for the SKSR Policies and Procedures concerning requests to publish information on the SKSR website and/or in the Bulletin. After a brief discussion, it was moved, seconded, and approved that Article X: Information Publication Requests be added as revised to Policies and Procedures.

Humanities Program Selection – Roberta recommended that we use a Humanities Washington program for the February SKSR meeting. Roberta had previously narrowed the initial list of offerings, and she and Jim presented four options to the group: Who Was Chief Seattle, A Sticky Subject: History and Culture of Sugar, Washington on Wheels, and Hacking Democracy. The options were discussed, and Hacking Democracy was chosen with the Culture of Sugar as an alternative. HOWEVER, after discussing the cost of this presentation (all transportation costs from and to Pullman, food and lodging, and fee; a minimum of \$600-\$700) and the fact that last year at that time we were in the midst of several weeks of snow, it was decided that we would switch our choice to the Culture of Sugar, whose speaker lives locally.

How to get new blood – Several suggestions were made: Linda suggested we invite several members to a Board Meeting in order to entice them to join the Board. Erma suggested scheduling a Board Meeting before a lunch and encourage members to come and then stay for lunch. Linda noted that the Library Board has some evening meetings to encourage working members to attend. We discussed this as an option and decided that our spring and fall months (October, April, May) would be the best for this. So possibly could do this this spring. Jim suggested talking to Sno-Isle to see what they do to encourage (general member) attendance at Board meetings. It was also suggested that we see about using the membership database that Erma receives from Olympia; it should be able to help us track our recent (last two years) retirees. Also, we should see about making contact with past grant recipients who have recently retired.

**New Business**

Fall Benefits Fairs—Jim was looking for members to assist at the Northshore Benefits Fair (October 2) and the Shoreline Benefits Fair (October 9). Edmonds is not hosting a Benefits Fair this fall. Jim will purchase two \$30-Gift Cards to be given as a drawing prize at each of the fairs.

December Board Lunch (Dec. 12)—Erma stated that she would probably have to bow out of chairing this event since she will be in new round of treatment. She said she could do the organization ahead of time and find a co-chair (e.g., Jan Westerlund) to work with her and take over the actual event.

AARP—Jim asked the Board whether we should send an email to the SKSR membership about an opportunity for AARP members to save money on their car insurance by completing an on-line driving course. This could reduce one's car insurance for a two-year period. Currently, AARP is offering the on-line course at a reduced rate (\$19.95), which expires at the end of September. Members should check to see if their insurance company participates. Couples would both need to take the course in order to receive a discount. (This used to be a 2-day class which was offered locally by Bob Jones). The Board agreed that Erma should send out an email to the members.

NW-1 (Oct. 7)—Roberta, Tom, Jim, and Karen plan to attend.

Items for October agenda—

- October Luncheon Update -- Cheryl
- November Luncheon Update - Jan
- Humanities Program Update - Roberta
- December Board Lunch Update - Erma
- Field Trip Revisit - Karen
- NW-1 Report -- Roberta
- How to Get New Blood Continued--Jim

**Bulletin Articles** (Due Oct 13)

- A. President's Message - Cheryl
- B. Legislative - Tim Knopf Info about insert
- C. November Brunch - Jan
- D. NW-1 Report -- Roberta
- E. Health - Donna
- F. Member Changes/Deaths - Erma
- G. Service Project - Virg

- H. Benefits Fair – Jim
- I. Winnie Smith update if there are any – Keith
- J. Advertisement for chairperson for Continuing Ed--Jim

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen McElliott, Acting Secretary