

Sno-King School Retirees
Executive Board Meeting
November 8, 2007
Edmonds School District Ad Center

Those Present: Alice Bingham, Bruce Caldwell, Bob Jones, Donna Murrish, Betty Odle, Gordon Bowers, Rachel Lake, Ellie Bonanno, Erma Snook, Warren Rowe, and Cheryl Bauer.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 by President Erma Snook, who led us in the flag salute.

It was moved by Alice Bingham to accept the minutes as presented with the correction of Nov. 5 for the bulletin folding.

Donna handed out the treasurer's report, and it was approved as presented.

We had an update on Rita's condition. She went home from the hospital today and sends her appreciation for the cards and concern.

Committee Reports

Community Service

Erma reported for Jim Siscel who was unable to attend the meeting. Our focus on supporting the 82nd Airborne Army Troop will happen in February. There will be a list of the items to purchase and bring in the February newsletter. This list is actually on the SKSR website (sksr.org) right now. Rachel moved we pass the hat at the February meeting. We don't want to compete with the raffle tickets sold at the November meeting. Ellie mentioned the need to take postage into consideration.

Communication

David Johnson mentioned concern over the size of the last newsletter. Sending fewer pictures at lower resolution would be helpful. It's difficult to send the order to COSTCO, and the cost was definitely higher.

Education Committee

There have 5-6 applications for grants so far. It was published in the newsletter, and the deadline is still November 15.

Health Services

Gordon showed us a poster with newspaper clippings on trips taken by Helen Thayer called "Thriving on Adventure: Walking Through the Gobi Desert". She has done programs for our group in the past. He then went over the articles that he had sent for the newsletter. One article talked about how many great medical centers we have in our area with the University of Washington getting high honors. There were other articles on going abroad for surgery, emergency safety during disasters, and losing one's eyesight including a reference to the latest AARP magazine which had an article on ^{muscular} macular degeneration.

Legislative

Ellie still needs the names of the five people we will contact if the Legislative phone tree needs to be activated. She also showed us the 2006 Actuarial Valuation Report. Ellie then read a letter from Leslie Main. We (our retirement system) have unfunded liability - which is not good.

Rachel had summarized and put in the newsletter a summary of the 2007 Legislative Report. The 2008 session is a short one going January 14 - March 13. Rachel has made a mock up of the card that will be mailed to the ~~1900~~ SKSR members with the appropriate addresses for the area legislators. In February and April we will have a separate table for PAC donations. This money supports legislators who are favorable to our concerns. Rita and Rachel will meet as members of the state PAC committee to develop criteria concerning where the money should go.

The Select Committee on Pension Policy is meeting in November to discuss whether to allow certain people to have access to PEBB insurance. It will lessen our amount if more people are brought in.

Membership Expansion

Bob had received a congratulatory letter from Barbara Landrock because we now have 13 members for which we will be awarded a \$10 per person award as part of an incentive program from the state. We have 1183 members with 26 pending.

Sunshine

Note from Evie saying she had sent cards to Jay Lapp, Fred Cochran, Andrea Bouchay^{Shay}, and Alice Bingham^{Ham}.

OLD BUSINESS

Programs for February and April

Erma went to see if the Masonic Center in Edmonds would work for a slide program. There was concern about rental fee and the ease of set up for those preparing the luncheon. Betty will check to see if her niece, Karen, could do her Arctic Adventure at the February meeting. It is set for February 20, but we discussed doing it Friday, February 22, so it would be easier for her niece to travel from Oregon. Ideas for the April Scholarship Luncheon included a presentation from the CASA people (court advocates), a speaker on the upcoming Olympics, and/or some type of music.

Governor's Walk-A-Thon

So far he has six returns with 470 miles reported by those people. Send your completed forms to Warren Rowe.

November Scholarship Luncheon

Betty reminded us to invite more people to come, and then let them know. Help with set up and clean up is always appreciated. We will have the box for the canned food items. Cheryl will send out an email to those on the executive board, and hopefully, there will be some items brought in.

NEW BUSINESS

Rita Requa

Rita's run for President Elect of the state organization was a headliner in the Whatcom County Newsletter. We need to start thinking about what we'll be doing for Rita.

Winnie Smith Ad Hoc Committee Report

Bruce and Cheryl spoke about the suggestions that the committee is recommending to the executive board. The report is included here:

Our committee (consisting of Bruce Caldwell, Linda Fitzgerald, Ellie Bonanno, Donna Murrish and Cheryl Bauer) has met four times since the original charge was given which was to determine the use of the money left us by Winnie Smith. After those four meetings, we now have the following recommendations ready for Executive Board discussion and (hopefully) approval.

1. We recommend continuing to give four scholarships to students in Edmonds, Northshore and/or Shoreline School Districts. We recommend **these scholarships be increased to \$1200.**
2. We recommend offering the first year scholarship in the same manner as it is done now. **We also recommend the scholarship be renewable for another three years. It would include a renewable application form to fill out and submit (probably on-line) to the scholarship committee. This renewable money would come from the Winnie Smith Memorial Fund.**

We are going to have financial advisors come to our next meeting in January, and after that, we hope to have more information as to whether we will combine the existing \$30,000 CD with the money from Winnie. We do not yet have her money, but are probably looking at over \$100,000. What a legacy she has left us!!

Later in the year we will have a financial recommendation along with proposed changes to the Scholarship Bylaws. We wanted to get this first proposal to you so that final action could be held in January, and this year's scholarship information could announce the renewable aspect. Linda says that can be done if this is approved by the January board meeting.

The proposal for the renewal process was also presented and includes the following:

Recipients of the SKSR scholarship will have the opportunity to apply for a Winnie Smith Memorial Scholarship, which will renew their award in the same amount of money for each of the next three years. Each student will be responsible to download and submit their renewal application form each year from our website. Through this renewal application, they will show that they are progressing towards a degree in the educational field by the courses they have taken and are planning to take next year. They will need to have a 3.0 or equivalent GPA in their college classes and be enrolled as a full time

student. An essay on their goals, a letter of recommendation from one of their professors, and a college transcript should accompany the renewal application.

Discussion followed the presentations including some math done by Erma that would show that the maximum amount of Winnie's money to go out each year could be \$14,400. **Please send to any of us on the committee any questions or concerns you as members of the executive board might have.** Our hope is to have the policy in place at the January meeting so the scholarship applications for this year can reflect the approved changes.

Outreach Committee Request

Bob met in Olympia and they had an explanation of what the Outreach does and what their duties will be. They will recommend that the Executive Council get reports from all eight councils, and then they can be a resource for others. The Journal has been cut down to five publications a year.

Part of the outreach will be to publish information about the grants and scholarships we give each year.

Disaster Preparedness

Dave Johnson sent a communication which came from the Red Cross asking for volunteers to teach and/or be part of a team to help with large disaster response. There will be an item in the January newsletter regarding this. You can get more information from Erma if anyone is interested in spearheading this.

Good of the Order

Donna had gotten a letter from the yellow pages asking if we wanted to be in the yellow pages. After looking at the cost of \$49.50, we decided not to do this.

Because of all the hassles Donna has gotten from the IRS regarding reinstating our non-profit status, she and Erma will go the IRS in person and try to resolve this.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20. WHEW!

Submitted by Cheryl Bauer