

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board –April 11, 2018

Western Suffolk BOCES –Wheatley Heights, NY

Present: Ed Bellomo, John Fogliano, Ken Forman, Gene Goldwasser, Elliot Kigner, David Long, Stu Mortman, Stan Opas, George Pincus, Ned Price, and John Wallace

1.0 Welcome: Gene Goldwasser, President-Gené welcomed everyone and expressed gratitude that we finally had a Wednesday with no snow. He shared that several members contacted him to say they were unable to attend the meeting.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the December 6, 2017 meeting were distributed for all to review. The motion to accept them was moved by Stan Opas and seconded by David Long. It passed unanimously..

3.0 Treasurer's Report: Account balances were reported as follows:

Share checking - \$6,037.25

Savings - \$473.46

Money Market - \$877.42

Certificate of Deposit - \$4,742.66

Total = \$12,130.79

Gene raised the question of whether the money in our checking account covers our expenses. Ned said that we may run \$1,000 short each year but he needs to review the numbers to get a more accurate picture.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved by Ken Forman, seconded by George Pincus , and passed unanimously.

4.0 Announcements: NYSARA Convention is April 19, 2018. Gene asked if any were willing to attend. No one was interested.

5.0 Correspondence: Gene read a letter from one of our younger members, Bob Dever-age 96. He was complimentary, funny, and

suggested that Gene's articles should not be on the front page since they are editorials.

6.0 Committee Reports:

6.1 Education: No report

6.2 Membership: John reported that we have 225 paid members and 59 lifetime for a total of 284, an increase from last year. Gene feels that the letter that Demetri sent out might have helped. A brief discussion ensued about reaching out to SAANYS retirees and increasing our publicity through distribution of business cards.

6.3 Political Action: Stu announced that Paul Ryan wasn't seeking re-election. He expressed the significance of getting everyone out to vote during the midterm election. All members agreed that every vote counts and we should all do our part in encouraging members, family and friends to vote. This topic would be revisited in New Business

6.4 Newsletter: In Corinne's absence, Gene shared that we have a sufficient number of articles for our next newsletter. He went over each one.

6.5 Website Review: Gene distributed the minutes and recommendations made at the March 14th Focus Group meeting. Ken explained that the website, as it is currently constituted, serves our membership well with no need to incur additional costs to make changes. Access to the directory works. If any members have any problems please contact Ken.

7.0 Old Business

7.1 Member Survey: to be discussed at June meeting.

Placement of Statement regarding NYSRSAS being a non-partisan organization-website, newsletter, stationery-

Gene reviewed the changes made to the statement which everyone approved. All communications will be updated to include the revision. The positioning of the statement is to be finalized.

7.2 Mission Statement/Website Design-The mission statement will be updated as stated in the March 14th Focus Group meeting. The website will not be changed as explained in 6.5.

7.3 Resources for Seniors-Gene reported that there are organizations who visit our website and email him for permission to be listed as a resource to our members. A committee was formed to review that request each time it is made. The members are: Ned Price, John Wallace, Ed Bellomo, Stu Mortman, Elliott Kigner, Gene Goldwasser. Stu will write a disclaimer for our website where resources are listed.

7.4 Review Focus Group-

7.4.1 Taking a Stand-Gun Control Issues-members discussed the stance decided upon at the March 14th Focus Group meeting. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the 2nd Amendment, school safety, gun categories, student activism, and gun capacity. In conclusion, we agreed with the initial recommendations and added the following item, “limit gun magazine capacity”. This final version will be presented at our June meeting.

8.0 New Business

8.1 2018 Midterm Elections: As agreed upon at the March 14th meeting we are modifying our process for endorsing candidates. All members will be involved in gathering information so we can make informed endorsements based on membership needs. Ned will put together a list of positions up for election in the fall. Gene is requesting that each member bring to our June meeting the names of those candidates who are running in our local districts.

8.2 June Luncheon Speaker: It was agreed that Ken and Ned would search for a speaker who could address the new tax laws and how they impact membership and all retirees.

9.0 The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m. on a motion by Stu Mortman and seconded by Gorge Pincus, and passed unanimously.

10.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 20, at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward Bellomo