

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board – September 12, 2018
Western Suffolk BOCES Conference Center

Present: Gene Goldwasser, Joe Quinn, Pat Galaskas, Ned Price, Mary Hance, Stu Mortman, Corine Lipset-Huberman, John Wallace, Ken Forman, Vince Deland, John Fogliano, Elliot Kigner, Marty Mandelker, Stan Opas, George Pincus, Mary Louise Haley

1.0 Welcome: Gene Goldwasser, President, welcomed everyone back from their summer vacations.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the June 20, 2018 meeting were distributed for all to review. The motion to approve them was made by Joseph Quinn and seconded by Vince Deland. It passed unanimously.

3.0 Treasurer's Report: Account balances as of September 1, 2018 were reported as follows:

Share checking	\$3965.41
Savings	\$473.70
Money Market	\$877.42
Certificate of Deposit	\$4,767.44

Ned noted that that account balance are below the same time last year. Some discussion about concerns for long term funding. A suggestion was made that the newsletter be distributed by email to all members as one way to reduce expenses. Gene indicated that this was a minimal savings. If we maintain same level of membership, we should be fine for 4 or 5 years. The motion to approve Treasurer's Report was made by Corine Lipset-Huberman, seconded by Mary Hance. None opposed.

(Discussion regarding possible conflict of meetings this year with OLLI at Stony Brook - M,W,F.) Decided to maintain current schedule for present and discuss at later date.

4.0 Announcements:

Pat Galaskas informed members about 2018 NYSUT Retiree Long Island Regional Conference, Elections Have Consequences. Focus on the 2018 mid-term elections and candidates, both Republican and Democratic, from Long Island.

Oct 17, 2018 at the Westbury Country Club, \$46 registration. Gene asked if there were any executive members interested in attending. Interested individuals can register on line at: www.cvent.com/d/wgq602 1-631-273-8822

5.0 Committee Reports:

5.1 Education:

Gene asked Mary to discuss her article in the NYSRSAS newsletter on the importance of homework. She mentioned that Long Beach School District is implementing a new policy eliminating traditional homework for elementary students. Instead students will be encouraged to spend more time reading at home and pursuing topics of personal interest and curiosity. The ensuing discussion included the following topics: homework helps build self-discipline and time management skills required for the demands of middle and high school, the quality and amount of homework, research regarding limited value of elementary homework as related to student success, and the importance of building parent/school partnerships in order to support student learning and achievement. We will return to this topic in December. It was suggested that members research articles to share at our next meeting.

5.2 Membership:

John reported that we have two new members for a total of 275 total members.

5.3 Political Action:

Corrine expressed frustration in contacting the DNC and lack of support for reaching out to voters and working to engage more voter participation. Stu stressed the importance of the mid-term elections for state and congressional elections and supporting candidates that support public education and will protect health care, pension and retirement benefits.

Marty posed the following questions for consideration: How do we let the candidates know that we are endorsing them? What action do we take to support them?

5.4 Newsletter

Corine and Pat provided an overview of the upcoming October newsletter. It will include some of the key information presented by speaker from June luncheon. Corine proposed a new feature for the winter newsletter that will feature humorous quotes from kids that reflect wisdom.

6.0 New Business:

6.1 2018 Midterm Elections:

Discussed and considered the feedback from the membership survey on key issues. The subcommittee -Gene, John, Ed, Marty, Vince, Ned, Stu, Pat and Corine – had developed a set of questions based on input from members. They researched candidates from both parties for top New York State and federal positions in the U.S. Senate and House. The subcommittee shared its assessment with the members of the Executive Board.

Following a thoughtful discussion, the Board endorsed the following candidates:

New York Congressional District 1 - Perry Gershon (D) and Lee Zeldin (R)

Endorsing Perry Gershon

New York Congressional District 2 - Peter King (R) and Liuba Shirley (D))

No endorsement (after further review after the meeting, changed to Peter King)

NY Congressional District 3

Thomas Suozzi (D) vs. Dan DeBono (R)

Endorsement: Thomas Suozzi

New York Congressional District 4

Kathleen Rice (D) and Ameer Bono (R)

Endorsement: Kathleen Rice

Governor: Andrew Cuomo (D) and Marc Molinari (R)

Endorsement: Governor Andrew Cuomo

If he loses the primary, no endorsement

Lieutenant Governor: Kathy Hochel (D) and Julie Killian (R)

Endorse Kathy Hochel

6.3 Establish NYSRSAS Constitution Focus Group

Volunteers: Gene Goldwasser, Corine Lipset Huberman , Ned Price, Marty, Pat, John Folgiano, Ken Forman

Tentative Date: 11/14/2018 @10:00 a.m. at Corine's house, 33 Villanova Lane, Dix Hills

6.4 Review Survey

Pat Galaskas will communicate the results from the NYSRSAS Membership Survey.

6.5 Agenda for December Meeting – Select Seminar topic (Suggested topics: role and resources of public and school libraries for parents/students, topic of homework, issues of equity as related to education and technology)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m. on a motion by Vince, seconded by Joe

Next General Meeting: December 12, 2018

Respectfully submitted by Mary Louise Haley