

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board –September 22, 2021
Zoomville-Nassau/Suffolk, NY

Present: Sherry Alessandro, Ken Forman, Pat Galaskas, Gene Goldwasser, Mel Haley, Corine Lipset-Huberman, David Long, Elliot Kigner, Marty Mandelker, Ned Price, John Wallace

Review of the minutes of the meeting of 6/10/21.

- Motion to approve made by Pat Galaskas, seconded by Corine Lipset-Huberman, and approved unanimously.

Review of Treasurer's Report for the period 6/1/21-9/1/21.

- Motion to approve made Ken Forman, seconded by David Long, and approved unanimously.

Announcements:

- Gene Goldwasser noted that Miriam Hanan volunteered to report on retirement and pension issues from NYSUT at the December meeting.
- There is an open position on the executive board (Recording Secretary).
- Anyone interested can join a lunch group on October 21 at noon. Gene Goldwasser will send information closer to the date.

Correspondence

- Several members sent letters complementing the last newsletter.

Membership

- John Wallace reported that we have 213 paid memberships, 51 lifetime members, and 78 free members.

Newsletter

- Corine Lipset-Huberman noted the October newsletter will contain the following topics.
- Two articles regarding CRT. She will preface the articles with a statement indicating that the points made have not been fact checked and are the opinions of the authors. Readers will be invited to respond.
- An article on health and wellness provided by a nonmember.
- Query regarding mandated vaccinations of school staff.

- It was suggested that members who are teaching ask students for questions that can be addressed in upcoming newsletters.

Publicity

- Mary Mandelker reported that we received a letter from the US Department of Education regarding our citizenship position paper.
- He suggested that we address other critical issues such as polarization in American society.

Education Committee

- Mel Haley reported that federal stimulus money was finally distributed to schools. It is being used to address the impact of the pandemic on student learning and social/emotional development.
- She also indicated that vaccination mandates are being hindered by judicial action resulting from employee lawsuits.

Citizenship award

- Awards (certificate and \$100) given to the following students.
 - Osasikianua Amene, Central Islip
 - Jamir James, Wyandanch
 - Vanessa Mendoza, Freeport
 - Derick Rodriguez, Amityville
 - Devonie Roden, Copiague
 - Angel Dilone, Uniondale
 - Four schools have not responded.
- We received \$1,150 in donations and have \$550 remaining. Reminders will be placed in the newsletter and in renewal notices seeking support for next year.
- It was agreed that information will be sent to ten low-income schools in January inviting nominations for 2022 awards.

Controversial Issues

- Gene Goldwasser reported that a focus group met in August to review how to address controversial issues. The group reviewed concerns such as gun control, CRT/1619 Project, tenure, academic freedom, and other educational issues. Elliot Kigner recommended focusing on education concerns.
- It was agreed that editing controversial newsletter submissions is problematic, but the executive board has the obligation to decide what is published in newsletters.

December 16 Meeting Agenda

- Process for awarding Citizenship Scholarships.
- 2022 election and possible endorsements (US Senator -Schumer, US House of Representatives, NY Governor).
- Election of officers for 2022.
- Member interest survey. A committee (Pat Galaskas, Ken Forman, Corine Lipset-Huberman, Sherry Alessandro, and Marty Mandelker) will meet on November 17 to prepare a draft.

Adjournment

- Mel Haley moved, and David Long seconded a motion to adjourn at 11:50, approved unanimously.

Submitted by Ned Price 9/22/21