

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board –March 17, 2022
Zoom-Nassau/Suffolk, NY

Present: Sherry Alessandro, Ken Forman, Pat Galaskas, Gene Goldwasser, Mel Haley, Corine Lipset-Huberman, David Long, Elliot Kigner, Marvin Kreutzberger, Marty Mandelker, Stu Mortman, Ned Price, Lois Small, Seth Weitzman

Review of the minutes of the meeting of 12/16/21.

- Motion to approve made by Sherry Alessandro, seconded by Ken Forman, and approved unanimously.

Review of Treasurer's Report for the period 12/1/21-3/1/22.

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

Announcements:

- Gene Goldwasser noted that the lunch group will reassemble as the weather improves. Corin Lipset Huberman will select a restaurant and Gene Goldwasser will notify the executive board.
- There is an open position on the executive board (Recording Secretary).

Correspondence

- Letters of recommendation for Citizenship Award nominees were received from nine schools.

Education

- Mel Haley reported that the changes resulting from the pandemic along with current political issues resulted in many educators (teachers and administrators) planning to retire or leave the profession.
- Experienced educators leaving along with fewer young people in teacher preparation programs are creating a shortage. Many states are responding by reducing qualifications for teachers.

Membership

- In John Wallace's absence, Gene Goldwasser reported that we have 147 paid memberships and 51 lifetime members.
- Demetria will send a second mailing.

Newsletter

- Corine Lipset-Huberman noted the next newsletter will be sent in early May. The deadline for information is 4/25/22.
- The newsletter will include a query regarding term limits, a list of nominated officers, and results of the membership survey.

Political Action

- Stu Mortman noted the increase in voter suppression legislation (250 bills proposed in 24 states).
- NYSTRS will not invest in fossil fuel businesses.
- There are several charities assisting Ukrainian people suffering from the Russian invasion. Gene Goldwasser will distribute the list for those who wish to contribute.

Publicity

- Mary Mandelker recommended several changes to the letter endorsing political candidates. The letter will be sent to the executive board.

Membership Survey

- Pat Galaskas reviewed the membership survey with 166 responses. The survey reported newsletter topics of interest, political issues of importance and where members get their information on current events. It also includes individual comments provided by some respondents.
- This information will be included in the next newsletter.

Citizenship Award

- Letters were sent to 16 school districts requesting nominees. To date, nine schools responded.
 - Wyandanch, Justin Henry
 - Central Islip, Kelly Gaussaint
 - Freeport, Julian Awalom
 - Roosevelt, Kenneth Salamanca
 - Bellport, Eliza Beitel
 - Copiague, Joanna Rivera
 - Westbury, Berlinda Pierre Louis
 - Greenport, Savannah Corwin Hall

- Calls will be made to principals of those schools not responding.
 - Lois Small - Uniondale
 - Sherry Alessandro - Amityville
 - Elliott Kigner - William Floyd
 - Corine Lipset Huberman - Brentwood
 - Ken Forman - Lawrence
 - Marty Mandelker - Hempstead
 - Mel Haley - Glen Cove
- \$1,875 in donations were received this year. After sending checks to the current awardees, there is a balance of \$1,525 in the scholarship fund.

Nominating Committee

- The committee (Corine Lipset Huberman, Mel Haley, and Marvin Kreutzberger) nominated all current officers to continue in their positions and Sherry Alessandro to serve as Recording Secretary.

2022 Elections

- NYS primaries will be held on June 28 for the following positions:
 - US Senator (Schumer)
 - US Congress (all districts)
 - Governor
 - NYS Attorney General
 - NYS Comptroller
 - State Senate
 - State Assembly
- A rubric for evaluating candidates and positions to consider for endorsement will be discussed at the June meeting.

Annual Meeting June 16 by zoom.

Adjournment

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

Submitted by Ned Price 3/17/22

