

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board – April 8, 2015

CAS Offices – Hauppauge, NY

Present: Ed Bellomo, Francesca Ciolino-Volano, Ken Forman, Gene Goldwasser, Pat Galaskas, Elliott Kigner, Corine Lipset-Huberman, David Long, Stu Mortman, Stan Opas, George Pincus, Joe Quinn, John Wallace

1.0 Welcome: Gene Goldwasser, President.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the December 17, 2014 meeting were reviewed and accepted with a clarification that life dues as \$175 was to be a “step” toward a subsequent raise to \$200. Moved by Joe Quinn, seconded by Corine Lipset-Huberman.

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

Share checking - \$4,428.31 (as of Feb. 28, 2015)

Savings - \$3.20

Money Market - \$1,104.66

16 month Certificate of Deposit - \$4,603.88.

Anticipated income (dues for 100 members @ \$25) - \$2,500

Total income (including dues estimate) - \$12,640.05

Anticipated expenses - \$5,650

Acceptance of the Treasurer’s Report was moved by Pat Galaskas, seconded by Ed Bellomo, and passed by acclamation.

4.0 Announcements: Gene noted that Marty Mandelker sent his regards from Boston where he was awaiting the birth of a grandson.

5.0 Correspondence: Announcements of two conferences were received: ARA-NYS at Latham, NY on May 13, and ARA Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, July 7-10 (cost \$125 per person). Joe Quinn indicated possible interest in attending.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Education: No report. However, Marty Mandelker forwarded an article for the newsletter.

6.2 Legislation – Stu Mortman noted the danger presented by the influence of David Koch and his interest in abolishing Medicare/Medicare, social security, and the minimum wage as espoused in his 1980’s role as Vice-

Presidential nominee on the Libertarian ticket. The GOP Plan for America would cut benefits for food stamps, training programs for workers as well as Medicare and social security. If vetoed by President Obama the congress would need people to cross party lines to override. George Pincus, having just returned from his winter in Las Vegas, noted how widely the political positions of most people there differed from the “eastern” points of view expressed at our meetings (even when the “western” positions would have people voting against their own best interests). On the local front, Stu noted that Gov. Cuomo is still talking about reducing pensions.

6.3 Membership: John Wallace reported membership status as follows:

- 192 payments received
- 134 current members have not yet paid dues
- 46 lifetime members.
- 13 “comp” memberships for 1 year
- 387 total

New members are invited to attend the June luncheon free of charge. Ideally, the dues of life members would be invested at a higher rate of return and we would use only the interest for annual expenses.

The possibility of taking an “ad” in a conference program (e.g. ARA) to raise our visibility was discussed but there were doubts regarding how “cost effective” this would be.

6.4 Newsletter: Corine Lipset-Huberman indicated that the April issue will include the luncheon announcement and response form (eliminating the cost of a separate mailing). The question regarding new interests in retirement got a good response and will be continued. It was suggested that new question for July might be “Why do people often appear to be voting against their own best interests?”

It was noted that Francesca Ciolino-Volano has been honored by Audrey Cohen College. A report will be included in the July newsletter.

6.5 Publicity: no report.

7.0 New Business

7.1 End of Year Luncheon Meeting: Will be held Wednesday, June 17, at the Holiday Inn (Exit 46 LIE). The Executive Board meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. (coffee only), followed by our annual meeting/luncheon at 12:00 noon (wraps, salads and soft drinks). Our contract is based on a minimum of 25 attendees at \$20.76 per person. The consensus was to charge \$21 per person (as opposed to “subsidizing” the cost as we have done in the past). Original plans for a speaker on the topic of “Strategies for Generating Income in Retirement” fell through. There was agreement that we would like to find a speaker on the same (or similar) topic. Ken Forman has a possible contact with a Vice-President at Wells Fargo.

7.2 NYS Alliance for Retired Americans: See announcements.

7.3 Impact of Republican Control of Congress beginning January 2016:

The question of whether our organization should endorse candidates will be addressed in our July newsletter.

8.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 17 at 10:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn.

9.0 Adjournment: at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Galaskas