

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board – April 9, 2014
CAS Offices – Hauppauge, NY

Present: Gene Goldwasser, Pat Galaskas, David Long, Marty Mandelker, Stu Mortman, Stan Opas, Lynn Pombonyo, Joe Quinn, John Wallace

1.0 Welcome: Gene Goldwasser, President.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the December 18, 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted. Moved by Joe Quinn, seconded by David Long.

3.0 Treasurer's Report: Account balances as of February 28, 2014:

Regular savings - \$3.20 not interest bearing

Share checking - \$5,752.64

Money Market - \$1,252.06

16 month Certificate of Deposit - \$4,558.54 maturing 6/24/14.

Total = \$11,566.44

Additional dues checks in the amount of \$6,112.64 were deposited on

March 27, bringing the total to \$11,926.44

Anticipated Expenses including newsletters, the June luncheon, stationery, website maintenance, Executive Board lunches and "miscellaneous" were estimated to total \$6,000.

At the time of the report, 285 members had renewed (a quicker response than we've had in past years). There are also 38 life members and 25 who are in the free first year of membership. Letters will be sent to the 86 who have not yet renewed.

4.0 Announcements:

Stan Opas was congratulated on his speedy recovery.

Howard Pierson's son, Robert, responded to Gene's letter of condolence remembering Warren Koch, the founder of NYSRSAS, and noting how important the organization was to his father. There was a suggestion that the "founders" of NYSRSAS be recognized in our newsletters. (Suggested wording: "dedicated to the memory of Warren Koch and Murray Schneider")

Jeff Hollander, has been elected President of OLLI.

5.0 Correspondence: It was noted that our e-mail blasts go to over 300 and 120 consistently actually "open" the messages. All Executive Board members were urged to go online to check the website periodically.

6.0 Committee Reports

- 6.1 Education:** Marty Mandelker discussed comparisons involving charter schools vs. public schools. It was agreed that a focus group on charter schools be planned for the fall. A debate (proponents vs. opponents) was mentioned as a possible format.
- 6.2 Legislation** – Stu Mortman stressed the need to be able to identify groups such as the American Legislative Exchange Council and the State Policy Network which write model legislation designed to serve the interests of corporations. Concern was also expressed regarding Cuomo’s support of charter schools and initial budget proposal to eliminate the Medicare IRMAA reimbursement as well as his persistent use of “backdoor” tactics.
- 6.3 Membership:** See comments under 3.0 Treasurer’s Report.
- 6.4 Newsletter:** It was noted that the April issue will include a “save the date” notice regarding our June luncheon and the election of officers. June 15 was established as a deadline for articles for the July issue.
- 6.5 Publicity:** The position paper on testing was sent to all Nassau County superintendents. Surprisingly, there was no response to these mailings. However, we did get some reactions to our website posting of the position paper. Public reactions to the “opt out” movement were discussed.

7.0 Old Business

- 7.1 Election of Officers:** Lynn Pombonyo presented the report of the Nominating Committee. The committee proposed a slate with only one change (Jack Zamek will no longer serve as Chair of the Benefits Committee). David Long moved, seconded by Stan Opas, that the proposed slate be accepted and it passed unanimously. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

8.0 New Business

- 8.1 Taking Stands:** Discussion was tabled. Possible topics for future consideration include: charter schools (for the fall focus group), universal pre-K/Kindergarten mandate, school security, and changes in licensing requirements for teachers and administrators.
- 8.2 June Luncheon:** Joe Quinn will arrange for a speaker. It was agreed that we will use the Holiday Inn. Joe Quinn moved, seconded by Marty Mandelker, that the cost to members be maintained at \$21 as in previous years. Passed by acclamation.

9.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 18. Executive Board at 10:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, followed by the Annual Meeting and luncheon at 12:00 noon.

10.0 Adjournment: at 11:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Galaskas