

New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors

Meeting of the Executive Board – April 10, 2013

CAS Offices – Hauppauge, NY

Present: Ken Forman, Gene Goldwasser, Pat Galaskas, Elliot Kigner, Corine Lipset-Huberman, Marty Mandelker, Stu Mortman, Stan Opas, George Pincus, Joe Quinn, Francesca Ciolino Volano, John Wallace

1.0 Welcome: Gene Goldwasser, President.

2.0 Minutes: The minutes of the December 19, 2012 and March 21, 2013 meetings were reviewed and accepted. Moved by Joe Quinn, seconded by Corine Lipset-Huberman.

3.0 Treasurer's Report: Jack Zamek was in Florida but sent his report. Account balances as of end of March 2013:
Share checking - \$5,332.12
Money Market - \$2,365.69
16 month Certificate of Deposit - \$4,524.67.
There are additional membership checks totaling approximately \$400 to be deposited.
Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved by George Pincus, seconded by Stu Mortman.

4.0 Announcements: Gene reported Mel Lantz has resigned from his "at large" membership on the Executive Board.

5.0 Correspondence: Resignation letter from Mel Lantz.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Benefits –There was consensus that the benefits listed in the newsletter should be checked periodically to insure that all discounts will actually be offered at members' requests.

6.2 Education: Marty Mandelker noted that recent news briefs from ASCD often focus on violence and bullying in schools. Concern was expressed regarding charter schools because they divert funds from public education. It was suggested that interest in charter schools could be seen as a reflection of cynicism about public schools in general. Charter schools are not subject to many of the mandates applied to public schools (e.g. testing, hiring of only certified teachers, enrolling all students within their

geographic boundaries, etc.). They have the support of politically powerful figures such as President Obama, Governor Cuomo and Mayor Bloomberg who apparently believe that “competition” will raise standards in all schools. In addition, charter school students are a self-selecting group who may well be enrolled in the charter school because their parents take greater interest in the schools their children attend. Joe Quinn will look into preparing a newsletter article on charter schools and their relationship to public schools.

6.3 Legislation – Stu Mortman reiterated the need for a listserv which will enable us to communicate quickly with our members, sending alerts regarding upcoming legislative actions, etc. At present, possible changes in social security and Medicare, including a threatened change to a “chained CPI” as a basis for cost-of-living adjustments to social security benefits are of particular concern.

6.4 Membership: Gene noted that current membership is about 304. This includes 249 paid members, 32 life members, and 23 new members (first year membership free of charge). A second letter reminding the 152 members who have not renewed their membership will be sent the first week in April.

6.5 Newsletter: Corine Lipset-Huberman expressed her thanks to those who provide articles for the last newsletter. She indicated that the deadline for articles for the June-July issue will be June 15, 2013. Corine asked anyone planning to write for the next issue to be in touch with her by the end of April.

6.6 Publicity: no report.

7.0 Old Business

7.1 Website Decision: There was unanimous agreement that we should contract with Wingman Planning to build a NYSRSAS website at a cost of approximately \$2,000 for the first year. A sub-committee will work with Tom Mirabella as he develops the design. Members include: Gene Goldwasser, Ken Forman Pat Galaskas, Corine Lipset-Huberman, Jeff Hollander, and Stu Mortman.

7.2 Survey of Members’ Interests: Responses were summarized as seen in minutes of the March 21 meeting. As additional member renewals are received more survey responses also come in.

7.3 Financial Workshop: Discussion of a possible meeting on the topic “Where to put your money in this economic environment” was tabled.

7.4 LISTSERV Creation: It was agreed that we should proceed with creation of a listserv for purposes of communicating with our members, especially on matters relating to political action. Wingman Planning will be asked to submit a proposal (with fee) to develop the listserv. The listserv will include all members for whom we have an e-mail address. There will be an “opt

out” option members can use if they do not want to receive bulletins via the listserv.

8.0 New Business

8.1 End of Year Luncheon Meeting: It was agreed that we would hold our Executive Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 19, followed by our annual luncheon at 12:00 noon. Pat Galaskas moved, seconded by Joe Quinn, to authorize Gene Goldwasser to contract with the Holiday Inn, Plainview/Old Bethpage for continental breakfast for the Executive Board and a hot buffet luncheon on June 19, 2013, and to subsidize the luncheon cost to members by \$5-7 per person. Non-members attending for the first time will be the guests of NYSRSAS. The motion was passed by acclamation. .

8.2 Luncheon Guest Speaker: Based on the responses to our member survey, we will seek a speaker on the topic of health care in retirement (Medicare, health care legislation and its potential impact on our members, etc.) A letter announcing the meeting and the speaker will be sent to members early in May.

9.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 19 at 10:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn .

10.0 Adjournment: at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Galaskas