

# **New York State Retired School Administrators and Supervisors**

Meeting of the Executive Board – December 22, 2010

CAS Offices – Hauppauge, NY

**Present:** Gene Goldwasser, Mario DiSciullo, Pat Galaskas, Elliott Kigner, David Long, Joe Quinn, Stan Opas, George Pincus, Jack Zamek

**1.0 Welcome:** Gene Goldwasser, President, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

**2.0 Minutes:** The minutes of the September 29, 2010 meeting were reviewed and accepted. Moved by Jack Zamek, seconded by George Pincus.

## **3.0 Treasurer's Report:**

Presented by Jack Zamek. Account balances as of November 30, 2010:

Regular savings - \$3.20 not interest bearing

Share checking - \$258.82

Money Market - \$5,897.62

1 year Certificate of Deposit - \$4,417.75 @ 1.40%

All accounts are presently held at the Teachers' Federal Credit Union

Total = \$11,886.35 (\$201.66 net gain from '09 to '10)

Recent expenses included:

Money Market account

\$881.69 – Oct. newsletter

\$360 - printing (letterhead & envelopes)

Checking Account

\$22 - stamps

\$7 - meeting refreshments

\$91 - Executive Board lunch

Interest earned on all accounts in the period from January 1-November 30, 2010 totaled \$124.90.

It was agreed that our holiday gift to Demetria should be increased to \$75.

The report was accepted unanimously.

## **4.0 Correspondence:**

Bernie Schulman has submitted a letter resigning as an Executive Board Member-at-Large, effective the end of June 2011.

## **5.0 Announcements:**

**5.1** Further prospective changes in Executive Board membership were outlined: Members who have moved or are experiencing other issues that may impede their participation on the Executive Board include Myra Lieblich, Stu Mortman, Lorraine Schottenfeld, Bill Sigelakis, Ken Forman, and Vince Deland.

Gene requested that members of the Board provide names of others who can be invited to join us.

- 5.2 Stan Opas noted that Vince Deland's wife passed away. Gene sent a letter of condolence on our behalf.

## 6.0 Committee Reports

- 6.1 **Nominating** – The constitution calls for formation of a nominating committee every 3 years. The committee must include at least one Executive Board member (Elliot Kigner and David Long volunteered) and one representative from the general membership (Wayne Schnell will be invited). They will be responsible for nominating candidates for President, two Vice Presidents, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. The slate is to be presented at the March Executive Board meeting. The election will be held at the June General Meeting.
- 6.2 **Benefits** – Jack Zamek will be providing Mario with information on one of our member benefits to be highlighted in each newsletter. Smart Saving will be the next one featured. Members were cautioned to compare prices since our benefit programs do not always offer the best deals (e.g. for car rentals). MVCP and AAA were discussed as tools for comparison pricing when shopping for cars. Checking [hotdeals.com](http://hotdeals.com) for airline ticket prices was recommended (the site has links to Expedia, etc.).
- 6.2 **Legislation** – Discussion was deferred.
- 6.3 **Membership**: Bill Sigelakis reported via e-mail that membership remains unchanged at 451 active members (including 28 free members). Membership renewal letters will be mailed in January (dues remain at \$20). All new members receive one year (Jan.-Dec.) free of charge even if they retired some time ago. Potential new members will also be invited to our luncheon free of charge.
- 6.4 **Newsletter**: Mario DiSciullo expressed frustration over the lack of articles from the Executive Board. Material on legislation is a pressing need. April 6 will be the deadline for articles for the next issue. Mario will contact Gene who will e-mail all Executive Board members if additional articles are needed.
- 6.5 **Publicity**. No report.

## 7.0 Old Business

- 7.1 **Alliance for Retired Americans**: It was agreed that membership should be renewed. The cost is \$25.

## 8.0 New Business

- 8.1 **“Battle Plan” for Legislation**: Concern was expressed regarding taking a position on tenure changes given the range of opinions possible within our membership. There was, however, consensus regarding continuing our

opposition to a constitutional convention, given the threat that could pose to existing pension provisions. Due to uncertainties resulting from changes in the distribution of power in Albany, further discussion was tabled until the March meeting.

**8.2 Long Term Care Insurance:** Concerns regarding differences in programs available to members living in various states were voiced. Interest in the potential for legislation to make it more affordable to keep someone at home (rather than in a nursing home) was expressed. The Senior Helpers program in Smithtown was mentioned as a model we'd like to know more about.

## **9.0 Issues for Discussion**

**9.1 What to expect from the next Congress:** discussion was tabled. However, there was a wide-ranging discussion on issues such as changes in evaluation procedures for teachers and administrations, tax cap legislation, and caps for Superintendents' salaries.

**9.2 School Consolidation:** Gene outlined his views regarding the potential benefits of consolidation to create districts with at least 5,000-7,000 students.

**10.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m. at the CAS office.**

**11.0 Adjournment:** at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Galaskas