New York State Retired Teachers / Retiree Council 8

NYSUT Regional Office

7 Ellinwood Court

New Hartford, New York 13413 Steering Committee Minutes

Election District 51 / AFT #9508

**Meeting Date: January 9, 2024  Time: 10:12 am**

***“We can complain because the rose bushes have thorns***

***or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses!”*** A. Lincoln

**Attendance: X = in Attendance**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Steering Committee Member**  *Representing School*  *District* |  |  | **Steering Committee**  **Member**  *Representing School District* |  |  | **Steering Committee**  **Member**  *Representing School District* |  |
| **Corn, Jan**  **President** | X | Bender, Nancy  Utica | exc |  | McQueen, Sarah  Oriskany | exc |
| **LaFave, Howard**  *Vice President* | x | Blackburn, Carol  Phoenix | exc | Sandford-Ferrick, Barbara Oriskany | exc |
| **Carey, Wanona**  Treasurer  *Rome* | x |  | Byrne, Mary  Rome | exc |  | Wood, Florence Whitesboro | X |
| **Foote, Kathy**  **Co-Secretary**  *Clinton* | x |  | Cartwright-Cox, Keri  Oneida | X | R | Woodarek, Barbara Canastota |  |
| **Moran, Kathy**  **Co-Secretary**  *Clinton* | x | Chomin, Helen  Whitesboro | X | Zaleski, Carol  Holland Patent | X |
| **Furgal, Janet**  **Newsletter**  *OHM BOCES* | x | Corbett, Peg  Rome | exc |  |  |
| **Gehrig, Carole**  **RAC**  *Whitesboro* | x | Cortright, Ylva  Sauquoit | X |  |  |
| **Drake, Ken**  **Website**  *VVS* | exc | DeSantis, Lorna  Adirondack | exc |  |  |
| V**outsinas, AnneMarie**  NYSUT Consultant | X | Dunn, Linda  Stockbridge |  | **Guests Name and *School Representation:*** |  |
|  |  | Fiacco, Jim  Oneida | X |  |  |
| Bulutis, Mary Theresa  *Utica* | X | Hauprich, Steven  VVS | exc |  |  |
|  |  |  | Johnson, Claudette  *Holland Patent* | exc |  |  |  |
|  |  | Maciag, Dorie  BOCES |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** 
   * 10:12 am by ***President Jan Corn*** ● Notetaker: Kathy Moran

1. **Attendance:** Attached

1. **Secretary’s Report:** Kathy Foote ● Corrections / Additions / Deletions:
   * Local Reports~ Utica had mini-grants awarded to 15 teachers
   * Motion to accept the minutes by: Jim Fiacco o Seconded by: Keri Cartwright-Cox o Motion passed unanimously.

1. **Treasurer’s Report: - *Wanona Carey*** 
   * Checking Account Balance: $ 223.51
   * Savings Account Balance: $ 18355.10
   * Sauquoit was inadvertently deleted from Treasurer’s report
   * Checks coming in, slowly
   * $ from HP and Whitesboro
   * Money Market rates are low, CDs are better
   * Nona researched rates on available CDs and MM. Thanks Nona.
   * Jan and Nona going to First Source on Friday
   * Motion made by Keri Cartwright-Cox to move CD to Americu for 9 month CD
   * Seconded by Florence Wood.
   * Passed unanimously.

1. **President’s Report: *- Jan Corn***

**Correspondence:**

-Thank yous:

The Center

CNY Food Bank

\*MEETINGS ATTENDED:

-Oneida County Presidents 1/4/24

RC 8 Report, ED 8 Report: check RA resolution deadlines

Regional Office Report: Tier 6 reminder, BOCES Retirement Workshop up to 80 people, Pres Conference 3/14-16/24 Tailwater again

Local Reports: most quiet, lots of discussion on next year's BOCES tri-county calendar

Next meeting: 2/1/24

UPCOMING DATES:

-ED 7&8 Meeting 1/25/24  5:30-8  Syracuse RO & Zoom

-Genesis Group Regional Leg Forum Breakfast 1/26/24, 7:30 Harts Hill $25

-Labor Council Leg Breakfast 2/9/24, 7:30 Delta Marriott

-RA 5/3&4/24 NYC

**Obituaries:**

-Leonard Moore, teacher, Canastota

-Frank Palmisano, teacher, Utica

-William O'Brien, teacher, Morrisville -Eaton

-Sarah Jane Sylvester, Payroll Clerk, Holland Patent

-Carla Dochterman, teacher, Holland Patent

-Nichole Barrick, TA, Fulton

-Jane Vescio, teacher, Fulton

-Gary Crystal, Central Square

- Warren Machell, Phoenix

-Cindy Maltese, cafeteria, APW

-Lucille Johnson, Librarian, Oswego

-Marilyn Marcy, Vernon VS

-Richard R. Smith, bus driver, Holland Patent

-Gerald Porcelli, teacher, NY Mills

Add:

-Moses Ballard, security, Utica

-Kenneth Allen, teacher, Utica

-Barbara Stahl, librarian, Oneida

-Charles Pratt, Central Valley, administrator

# VI. NYSUT Consultant: - Anne Marie Voutsinas

* Political Incentive ~ March

Training ~ increase VOTE COPE

* Annemarie has been NYSUT Consultant for 10 years! Congratulations
* Working on who is in which chapter
* Remind Local leaders to do PR work for future retirees to join RC
* Will be a pre-retirement workshop

**VII. Retiree Advisory Council (RAC): *- Carole Gehrig***

● Carole has been appointed to Fix Six and Vote Cope committees

● March 10~ ZOOM meeting

# VIII. Newsletter: - Janet Furgal

* Waiting for Albany to approve
* 3/1/24 deadline

**Old Business:**

* Canal Trail Walk ~ Wednesday, June 19~ Juneteeth
* BC/BS ~ WellNow dispute is not resolved. WellNow will not accept BC/BS

**Committee Reports:**

# A. Brunch / Luncheon Committee: - Keri, Sarah, Jim, Howard

● Spring Luncheon: Location: Twin Ponds

Date: May 16 Time: 11:00 Cost/Person: $ 28.00

Speaker: Chris Moran, US Attorney ~ Senior Safety

Charitable donation? tbd

Prices for luncheons have been on the rise, committee working hard to keep price reasonable!

Thank you!

1. **Legislative Issues Committee: *- Howard, Carole*** 
   * Continue to contact Legislators
   * Elise Stephanik was on Sunday Today
   * Check MAPalert
   * Gov. Hocul pushing for reading instruction changes to phonics based instruction
   * Ian Phillips is running for State Assembly, Auburn area
2. **Labor Council Representative(s): *- Wanona***

* Holiday meeting attended by Jan and Nona
* Legislative Breakfast, Harts Hill Inn, January 26

**D. CNYARA Representative(s): *- Florence, Carole, Peg, Jan*** ● Next meeting~ Friday

# E. Membership Committee: - Wanona, Florence, Ken, Jan, Helen ● No Report

1. **ED Delegates Report: *- Howard, Jan, Carole*** ● Meeting Jan. 25

1. **Educational Issues Committee: *- Jan, Carole, Doreen*** 
   * NYSUT initiatives, good PR
   * Melinda went to Central Valley for Connected Schools

1. **Election Committee: *- Florence, Helen*** 
   * No Report

1. **Public Relations Committee: *- Jan*** 
   * No Report

# J. Political Action (PAC): - Carole, Ken, Jan, Wanona, Doreen, Stephen, Barbara W., Nancy

* Get Involved!
* Unbiased news sources~ Indivisible Mohawk Valley, Citizen Action

# K. Social Action: - Carole, Howard, Jan, Ken

* No Report

1. **Sunshine (Joys & Concerns): *- Janet*** 
   * Cards~ Barb Woodarek

Sarah McQueen

1. **Mike Corn Award: *- Howard, Jan*** 
   * *Mike Corn Leadership Award*
   * Info in next newsletter

1. **Health Insurance Committee**

* Meeting Thursday, Jan 11, 1:00 and 3:00
* Barb F. looking for someone to join her at 3:00 (NH BOCES) meeting

**Discussion Topic(s):**

* + Covered during meeting

**New Business:**

* + ARA renewal completed, $25.

**Questions and Comments:**

* + \_When Jan sends an email it will include~ RC8 is Great so we know it is not a scam.

**Local Reports: (see separate sheet)**

**Adjournment**:.

* + Meeting was adjourned at: 11:55



* + Next meeting: February 13

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **School District** | **Local Reports / Shared Information:** |
| Adirondack |  |
| OHM BOCES |  |
| Canastota | . |
| Clinton | Changes in prescription prices will be “made whole” by district by completing forms from district. |
| Holland Patent | HP has granted one teacher grant for $100. Easy to apply for, hoping for more teachers to apply. |
| New Hartford |  |
| Oneida |  |
| Oriskany |  |
| Remsen |  |
| Rome |  |
| Sauquoit Valley |  |
| Stockbridge Valley |  |
| Utica |  |
| VVS |  |
| Waterville |  |
| Whitesboro |  |
| **Others:** |  |
| Camden |  |
| New York Mills |  |
|  |  |