

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: 03/12/24 Time: 10:08 am

Attendance: X = in Attendance

| Steering Committee Member <i>Representing School District</i> | | Steering Committee Member <i>Representing School District</i> | | Steering Committee Member <i>Representing School District</i> | |
|--|-------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|
| Corn, Jan – President <i>Remsen</i> | X | Bender, Nancy <i>Utica</i> | X | Fiacco, Jim <i>Oneida</i> | X |
| LaFave, Howard – Vice Pres. <i>Adirondack</i> | X | Blackburn, Carol <i>Phoenix</i> | X | Hauprich, Stephen <i>VVS</i> | E X C |
| Carey, Wanona -Treasurer <i>Rome</i> | X | Byrne, Mary <i>Rome</i> | X | Johnson, Claudette <i>Holland Patent</i> | X |
| Foote, Kathy – Co-Sec. <i>Clinton</i> | X | Cartwright-Cox, Keri <i>Oneida</i> | E X C | <i>Maciag, Dorie</i> <i>BOCES</i> | |
| Moran, Kathy – Co-Sec. <i>Clinton</i> | X | Chomin, Helen <i>Whitesboro</i> | X | McQueen, Sarah <i>Oriskany</i> | E X C |
| Furgal, Janet - Newsletter <i>OHM BOCES</i> | X | Corbett, Peg <i>Rome</i> | X | Sandford-Ferrick, Barbara <i>Oriskany</i> | X |
| Gehrig, Carole – RAC <i>Whitesboro</i> | X | Cortright, Ylva <i>Sauquoit</i> | X | Wood, Florence <i>Whitesboro</i> | X |
| Drake, Ken - Website <i>VVS</i> | e x c | <i>Dunn, Linda</i> <i>Stockbridge</i> | | Woodarek, Barbara <i>Canastota</i> | |
| Voutsinas, Anne Marie <i>NYSUT Consultant</i> | X | Bulitis, Mary Theresa | X | | |
| Vote Cope | | DeSantis, Lorna | X | Zaleski, Carol | X |
| | | Voutsinas, AnneMarie | X | | |
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I. Meeting Called to Order:

- 10:00 am by **President Jan Corn**
- Notetaker, K Foote

II. Attendance: (pass the attendance list)

III. Secretary's Report:

- Motion to accept the minutes by: Claudette Johnson
- Seconded by: Jim Fiacco
- Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report: - **Wanona Carey**

- Checking Account Balance: \$203.98
- Savings Account Balance: \$20,250.10
- Participation fees are still coming in.
- Thank you notes were sent out.
- Notices going out this week to those who haven't sent in their fees.

V. President's Report: - **Jan Corn**

Correspondence: None

Obituaries:

- -Barbara Starnes, teacher, Whitesboro
- -William Gifford, teacher, Whitesboro
- -James F. Baker, teacher, Central Square
- -Carol Rehm, teacher, Clinton/Stockbridge
- -Rochelle Jordan, New York Mills
- -Vincent Terry Fitch, bus driver, Adirondack
- -Jane Hagerty, teacher, New Hartford
- -Nicholas Cardinale, teacher, Utica
- -Phyllis Swalgin, teacher, New Hartford
- -Susan DeCoursey, custodian, Central Square
- -Sharlee Bateman, bus driver, Central Square
- -Lawrence Callahan, teacher, Fulton
- -Charles Winters, Administrator, Cazenovia
- -Susan Gogol, teacher, Canastota
- -Jean Pierce, TA, Utica

- Rose Marie Humphreys, TA, Utica

Other Items to President's Report:

- Committee of 100 3/4 and 5. Met with Joe Griffo, Brian Miller and Mary Ann Buttenschon. Focus on Foundation Aid, Tier 6, Teacher Centers, APPR, Higher Ed and Career and Tech Ed. Positive responses for the most part. Tier 6 Rally was attended. Lt Gov spoke on VOTE COPE
- Oneida County Presidents – 3/7 RC 8 report, regional report and local reports given. New LRS starting 3/20. Rob Wood going to districts to promote VOTE COPE and this is going well. VOTE COPE for retirees is going up. Pre-retirement workshop on 2/27 went very well with approx. 100 people attending.
- ARA – 3/8 Dr. Eric Kingson (SU Prof) spoke on Social Security benefits. Very informative.
- Upcoming Dates: ED 51 3/13 –14 Delta Hotel, Utica. RA 5/3 – 4.

VI. NYSUT Consultant: - Anne Marie Voutsinas

- Pre- retirement workshops are not just about pensions and should always include NYSUT piece as unions are for life. Need to keep SRP's connected. Member benefits are great and need to be utilized. Besides the newsletter, using the Action Network sponsored by AFT is a great way to communicate with members. Conference in Syracuse will be 9/23.

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

- Mtg next week. Only 2 mtgs in person a year, rest are on zoom. Focusing on Tier 6 and VOTE COPE. 70% of retirees give to VOTE COPE.

VIII. Newsletter: - Janet Furgal

- Approved in Albany. Changed format for ads which is being worked on.

Old Business:

- Canal Walk – Nice picture of last year's canal walk in newsletter. Rain date for this year is June 26th. Pension reform will be addressed at this years RA.

Committee Reports:

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

- Next (Spring,) Luncheon: Location: Twin Ponds
Date: May 16 Time: 11:30 Cost/Person: \$28.00
Speaker: Chris Moran Topic: Senior Scams

B. Brunch / Luncheon Speaker: - *Jan, Carole*

- Charity for luncheon is CNY Food Bank

C. Legislative Issues Committee: - *Howard, Carole*

- Brandon Williams has not helped our district. Call office to let them know.

D. Labor Council Representative(s): - *Wanona*

- Mtg 2/29 County divided into 21 and 22 Congressional Districts with Utica, Whitesboro, New Hartford south being in the 22nd and Rome in the 21st.
- April 2 – Presidential Primary. 3/23 to 30 early voting
- Legislative breakfast big success. Stacey Abrams was the speaker.
- AFL and most Unions endorsing Manion and Hood.
- United Way is changing due to understaffing.
- Cope looking for 2 volunteers from each union to interview candidates.
- Worker Memorial Day – 4/28
- No float for labor council at the St Pat's parade but building will be open to get warm.
- Secretary cast 1 vote for the Council's election of new officers.
- NLRB dismissed the MVHS "Speak Out" suit against the nurses' union.
- Sympathy card sent to Assemblyman Smullen.

E. CNYARA Representative(s): - *Florence, Carole, Peg, Jan*

- Next mtg – 4/12

F. Membership Committee: - *Wanona, Florence, Ken, Jan, Helen*

- No report

G. ED Delegates Report: - *Howard, Jan, Carole*

- No report

H. Educational Issues Committee: - *Jan, Carole*

- Fix Tier 6

I. Election Committee: - *Florence, Helen*

- No report

J. Public Relations Committee: - *Jan*

- No report

K. Political Action (PAC): - *Carole, Ken, Jan*

- Call Brandon William's office and encourage others to do so. Using MAC has letters to legislators already written for you. Easy to use.

L. Social Action: - *Carole, Jan, Ken, Wanona, Stephen, Barbara W, Nancy*

- Asking for 100 million for Community for Connected Schools. Whitesboro has opted out.

M. Sunshine (Joys & Concerns): - *Janet*

- Send card to Smullen family
- Check in with Barb Woodarek

N. Mike Corn Award: - *Howard, Jan*

- Notice will be in next newsletter

O. Health Insurance Committee: - *Sarah, Barb F., Donna, Jeanne, Mary,*

- Glitch in Feb mtg. 2/8 mtg cancelled. Held on 2/6 with no notice.
Next mtg 3/14 in New Hartford at noon and in Vernon on 3/20 at 1:00. Open to the public.

Discussion Topic(s):

- No report

New Business:

- No report

Questions and Comments:

- None

Local Reports: (see separate sheet)

Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned at: 11:59
- Next mtg 4/9

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| School District | Local Reports / Shared Information: |
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| Adirondack | Retirees supporting grandparents breakfast the Saturday before Mother's Day. Also, helping out with musical. |
| OHM BOCES | |
| Canastota | |
| Clinton | |
| Holland Patent | |
| New Hartford | |
| Oneida | |
| Oriskany | |
| Remsen | Breakfast on 3/7 had the largest attendance yet. Planned by Jan. |
| Rome | |
| Sauquoit Valley | |
| Stockbridge Valley | |
| Utica | |
| VVS | |
| Waterville | |
| Whitesboro | |
| Others: | |
| Camden | |
| New York Mills | |

