

MINUTES

**Wednesday April 14, 2010
Meeting Time 1:00 P.M.
MSRS Building**

Board Members Present: Mary Benner, Gene Gere, Ruth Husom, John Kuderka, Richard Mesenburg, Dennis Maki, Lyle Nelson, Peter Obermeyer, Sally Olsen Yvonne Ross, Lois Willock

Board Members Excused: Robert Lundahl, Fred Maurer

Board Members Absent: Sandra Hale

Others Present: Steve Regenstrief-AFSCME International Retiree Director; and Laura Dobozenki -MRSEA Service Provider

President Husom called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

Set and Approve Agenda

Upon a motion and second to approve the agenda, the motion carried.

Ratify Motions of March 10, 2010 Meeting

Due to a lack of a quorum for the March meeting the following action items were moved and seconded for ratification by the board, the motion carried.

(Approval of March Agenda, Approval of February Minutes, Endorsement of 2010 Candidates, 2010 Annual Meeting Guest Speaker, 2010 Fall Outstate Meeting)

Approve Minutes of March 10, 2010

Upon a motion and second to approve the agenda, the motion carried.

First Quarter 2010 Membership Update

The Business Service Provider updated the board of directors on the first quarter membership report. Upon a motion and second to accept the report the motion carried.

Steve Regenstrief-AFSCME International Retiree Director

Mr. Regenstrief had met with the board two years ago in regards to merging with two smaller retiree chapters in Minnesota, and establishing a relationship with Council 5. Mr. Regenstrief inquired about the organizational (MRSEA) big issues as well as any general issues there may be.

Mr. Obermeyer expressed some issues MRSEA are working on are:

- Long term preservation of pensions
- Funding Sacrifices
- Health Care Reform
- HSA's
- Omnibus Pension Bill

The board informed Mr. Regenstrief MRSEA has access to MSRS data, however not PERA or TRA data.

The board discussed past issues of support or lack thereof with Council 5 issues, and the issue that previously a first year membership had been paid for by Council 6 for retirees. Mr. Regenstrief strongly encouraged restoring a relationship with Council 5.

Mr. Regenstrief encouraged MRSEA to invite Elliot Siede to a board meeting to start discussions of membership and other resources available.

Mr. Regenstrief updated the board that AFSCME will be moving forward with developing a retiree coordinator position, that would involve multiple tasks in establishing local retiree groups, at this point no one individual person has been selected for the position.

Mr. Regenstrief stated various programs are available for training, speakers, research, phone banks, internet activities and more. Mr. Regenstrief reported the Board needs to build a bridge and start working together with Council 5.

Ms. Olsen reported the feedback from the membership is that they are concerned about pension issues, and how current legislation or future legislation impacts them personally. MRSEA has put the question (is anyone interested or willing to start a metro subchapter) to the general membership at previous annual meetings over the last few years, with no success in anyone wanting to start up a new metro sub chapter for MRSEA. Mr. Regenstrief recognized the importance of the social aspect of the organization. AFSCME would like to see a more interaction with Council 5 and political support of the Council's programs.

Mr. Gere reported he was pleased to see the Council 5 is willing to allow non AFSCME retirees to be a part of MRSEA.

Mr. Maki inquired if AFSCME would be working with other Unions, (ie., MAPE, LELS, Middle Management etc.) to allow membership into MRSEA. Mr. Regenstrief commented that they are state retirees, so they would be part of MRSEA.

Mr. Regenstrief encouraged the board to fill vacancies with AFSCME Retirees as we are a retiree chapter; a board member expressed that AFSCME is trying to take control of MRSEA as an organization; if there were enough AFSCME board members, then AFSCME would have its retiree organization established.

Mr. Regenstreif thanked the board for the time and discussion.

MRSEA Committee Reports

Ms. Husom expressed concern that MRSEA is getting away from its mission and becoming too involved in administrative procedures rather than doing the committee work assigned.

Ms. Husom requested a copy of all the committee meeting minutes to be sent to the Business Service Provider. Ms. Husom requested committee work should not be distributed until the committee itself has met and approved the task to be presented to the board.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Mesenburg reported no one has expressed further interest for the two open board seats. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the annual meeting to try to fill the positions.

Legislative Committee

Mr. Obermeyer reported the status of the legislative proposals of the retirement systems. The Pension Commission has passed the proposal (H.F. 2952), and it is now moving through the committee process.

Insurance Committee

No Report Given

Meeting & Planning Committee

2010 Annual Spring Meeting

Ms. Willock refreshed the board as to the location, guest speaker and vendors for the Annual Meeting in May.

Fall 2010 Outstate Meeting

Ms. Willock is working with Bob Lundahl on detailed information for locations and possible venues for the fall outstate meeting being held in Duluth.

Publications & Communications Committee

Ms. Benner reported that the committee has not met and the brochure is being held up in the publications committee. Ms. Benner inquired if a vice chair could be appointed to move the brochure forward as it is keeping other projects from moving forward.

Technology Committee

Mr. Maki reported the Tech Committee will meet the last Thursday of the month. The committee recently reviewed operating procedures and web updates needed. Mr. Maki distributed the web site statistics.

Finance Committee

Mr. Gere reported the committee will be finalizing a budget structure and using the new software purchased. The committee is also working on a draft reimbursement policy for the board.

MN State Retiree Council

Ms. Willock reported the guest speaker was Jessica Lettween of the MN Fair Trade Coalition. The Annual Fundraiser is scheduled for May 1st.

Ms. Olsen reported the MSRS Board

MSRS Board of Directors discussed deferred members voting in board elections, and the consensus was more information was needed in order to make a decision. The Board also reviewed the mid year 2010 budget, and the redemption of the MSRS building revenue bonds.

Chapter Liaison Reports

Brainerd

Ms. Willock reported 49 people were in attendance; \$132.00 was collected for the food drive and 98 pounds of non perishable food items were donated.

All other Sub Chapters have upcoming meetings. No reports were given.

The Business Service Provider reported an alternate liaison was needed for the upcoming Rochester meeting. Mary Benner volunteered to attend the meeting.

Old Business

Retreat Review Update

AFSCME Affiliation Update Draft Version 8

The Task Force Committee has compiled an extensive list of information about the pros and cons of the AFSCME Affiliation. Draft Version 8 has not been through the committee process, however was included in the board packet. Upon a motion to table and a second to send the report to committee, the motion carried.

Sub Chapter Officer Training

Mr. Kuderka distributed a draft of the proposed training outline for sub chapters. The board will review and offer any input. John and Laura will continue to work on the document for use at the September meeting.

New Business

Appoint Delegate and Alternate to AFSCME International 2010 Convention

Upon a motion and a second to appoint Ruth Husom as the Delegate to the 2010 convention, and Peter Obermeyer as the alternate, the motion carried. The Delegates will be voted on to attend the convention by the members at the upcoming Annual Membership meeting.

Renew MN State Retiree Council Affiliation

The Annual renewal fee for Affiliation is \$100.00. This is based on a membership of over 500. Upon a motion and second, the motion carried to renew the affiliation.

Next Regular Meeting Date June 9, 2010
Annual Meeting May 12, 2010

Meeting Adjourned
3:07 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laura Dobozenski-Service Provider
Platinum Professional Management, LLC