

BRAINERD SUB-CHAPTER MRSEA

September 15, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by President Peggy Hildebrandt. Michelle Radfield and Laura Dobozenski (MRSEA Business Agent) were welcomed. New attendees were Mary and Otto Trampe, Linda Ronno, Dennis Kohlgraf and Patty Acker.

A motion was made by Jean Simonson, seconded by Judy Monosmith to accept the minutes of the last meeting as read. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: beginning balance of \$521.35, receipts for dinners \$432.00, expenses for dinners \$432.00, ending balance of \$521.35. Savings balance of \$8.92. A motion was made by Bob Peterson, seconded by Linda Larson to accept the Treasurer's Report as given. Motion passed.

Michelle from the Duluth Satellite MSRS Office gave an update on the funding level as of June 30, 2011. MSRS retirees will receive a 2% increase as of January 1, 2012 until funding is again at 90% level. PERA will get 1% increase. Pensions are funded on \$.67 from investments, \$.18 from employers, and \$.15 from employees for each dollar paid. MSRS pensions are modest compared to others in the state. The country is facing a retirement crisis. Pension Proposals – discussions will NOT BE QUIET in 2012. A defined contribution has been suggested. There would be considerable cost to implement this – our current plan is best.

Laura Dobozenski's report – gave an update on MRSEA information. All four of our sub-chapter officers attended the fall MRSEA meeting. There are still openings on the MRSEA Board. Let a board member know if you would like to serve on the board. A study has been mandated to look at Defined Benefits and Defined Contributions retirement plans. Little action was taken by the Legislature in the last session. The Board will watch what happens during this next session. Laura invited members to consider attending the Boat Trip on September 28, 2011. There will be a dues increase to \$20.00 beginning in 2012. MRSEA voted to disaffiliate from AFSCME - MRSEA is non-political while AFSCME is very political. MRSEA welcomes new AFSCME members. Our members can belong to both MRSEA and AFSCME if they so wish. Our current renewals are coming in very well – we are at over 90% renewals. MRSEA doing very well. If you have questions see Laura after the meeting. Renewal cards will be sent out after January 1, 2012.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Story: Peggy Hildebrandt - "Forest Gump Goes to Heaven". Thanks, Peggy.

Good and Welfare: Myrna McCulloch fell and broke ribs.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2011.

Election of Officers for President and Secretary .There were no nominations for either office. The Vice President will conduct the next meeting and we'll search for a permanent president and secretary. Since no one was nominated, we will talk about it at the December meeting.

Drawings were won as follows: 1st – LaVon Ragan – \$15.00; 2nd – Steven Wentworth - \$13.00; 3rd – Ione Koinen - \$10.00.

Motion made by Rita Hamann, seconded by Linda Ronno to adjourn the meeting at 2:35 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by: Mary Anderson