

Minnesota  
Retired State Employees Association

President: Arlene Schoephoerster,  
Vice President: Evelyn Henderson,  
Secretary/treasurer: Lil Leach

The Southwest Chapter of MRSEA fall meeting was Thursday, September 22, 2011 11:00 AM at the Wooden Nickel in Marshall. Fifteen members were present with three guests and special guests; Ramira Sifuentes, Mike Prah, Mary Barsgard, Howard Ward (Board Member from Vernon Center) and Laura Dobozenski, .

President Schoephoerster called the meeting to order. The Secretary/Treasurer was not present . We will get up-to-date at our next meeting.

Ramira Sifuentes & Mike Prah: From the Social Security office in Marshall, were first on the agenda. They presented information on how to get our questions and concerns answered, how to contact them or to access Social Security on the internet (SS.org). The big question was if we would receive a COLA raise in January 2012. They did not know but if we do get a raise, then the Medicare premium would increase.

Laura Dobozenski: Reported on what has been going on in St. Paul that would involve MRSEA. Our members had a lot of questions for Laura. We had some new members at our meeting and they were asking questions. They can be a member for free for one year. Then it is \$15.

Mary Barsgard: Dave Bergstrom could not be at our meeting. Mary represented MSRS in Dave's place. The idea of new retirees going into 401K This would not affect those already in retirement. We are urged to contact our legislators to ask not to vote for this. Further discussion followed. We will be receiving a 2% raise in January. (Good news)

Our meeting took too much time and we did not have time to elect officers. We will do that at the Spring meeting.

Our next meeting will be April 26, 2012 at the Wooden Nickel at 11 am.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Arlene Schoephoerster (Lil Leach was absent)