

MEA-Retired Board of Directors' Meeting

Virtual Meeting
January 13, 2021

Minutes

Present:

Katherine A Walker-Telma, President

Judy K Daley, Vice President

Daniel L Rudd, Secretary/Treasurer

Judy K Foster, Past President

William Beson, Region 2

Isabell Nazar, Region 4

Joellyn N Ellis, Region 6

Margaret K Schroder, Region 8

Folke A Boman, Region 10

Kent C Southworth, Region 12

David E Schopp, Region 14

Al E Beamish, Region 16

Kristin R Schourek, Region 18

James S Sparapani, ESP Director At-Large

~~Bonnie L Urlaub, MAHE Liaison~~

James R Pearson, Liaison to MPSERS

Barbara J Schram, NEA Board

Sidney D Kardon, NEA Resolutions

Elias Chapa, Region 3

Anne O Good, Region 5

Larry K Smartt, Region 7

Mary M Yedinak, Region 9

Penny C Letts, Region 11

Robin M Aslakson, Region 13

Francis J Cullen, Region 15

Earl W Eliason, Region 17

Additional Present:

Paul A Helder, MEA Retirement/Field Services Consultant

Lisa J Fox, MEA Staff Secretary

James A Urbanski, Region 2

Pamela K DeGryse, Region 9 Alternate

Kelly Cline

Absent:

Bonnie L Urlaub, MAHE Liaison (Excused)

- I. **Call to Order** – Katherine A Walker-Telma, President – Kay called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.

- II. Pledge of Allegiance** – Penny Letts led us in the Pledge. She said that if there was ever a time, we need it – it is now.
- III. Moment of Silence** – Mary Yedinak reflected on the last year and hope for the coming year.
- IV. Introductions** –
- V. Announcements** – Kay reminded us to mute our cell phones. Dan said the mileage rate for 2021 is \$0.56.
- VI. Seating of Board Members** – Kay directed our attention to Jim Urbanski who decided to step down as the Region 2 Director. She thanks Jim for his many years of service and wished him the best in the years ahead. Jim mentioned two programs he enjoyed about MEA-Retired because they deal with helping students – the mentoring program and the scholarship program. He thanked the Board for all they do. Kay introduced Bill Beson is the new Region 2 Director following the resignation of Jim Urbanski. Bill gave us some of his background. It was moved by Al Beamish and seconded by Penny Letts to seat Bill as the new Region 2 Director. **Motion carried.**
- VII. Adoption of Agenda, with Flexibility** – It was moved by Anne Good and seconded by Mary Yedinak to adopt the agenda with flexibility. **Motion carried.**
- VIII. Approval of Minutes** – November 11, 2020 – It was moved by Al Beamish and seconded by Earl Eliason to approve the November 11th minutes with corrections. **Motion carried.**
- IX. Officer Reports**
- A. President** – Katherine A Walker-Telma – See her emailed report. Kay said it is the holiday season and we are not going anywhere so we have had a lot of Zoom meetings. She also mentioned that Julie Hyatt is replacing Nancy Coscarelli as the social media and Constant Contact person. Julie is from the Midland area and has a masters’ degree in technology. The officers will be glad to attend your Chapter meetings.
- B. Vice-President** – Judy K Daley – See her emailed report. She mentioned that she had attended many Zoom meetings since we last met.

- C. Secretary/Treasurer** – Daniel L Rudd – Dan mentioned that his activity report includes both meetings with MEA-Retired and NEA-Retired all of which have been virtual. Dan reported that the audited financial report for 2019-2020 showed total revenue of \$2,755,074.98 (\$303,573.59) and total expenses of \$276,277.42 for an excess revenue over expenses of \$2,478,797.56 (\$27,296.17). He reported that the November financial report for 2020-2021 showed total revenue of \$769,556.71 (\$26,914.21) and total expenses of \$50,316.67 for an excess revenue over expenses of \$719,240.04 (-\$23,402.46). It was moved by Dan Rudd and seconded by Judy Daley to accept the 2019-2020 audited report. **Motion carried.** Since I failed to send the November financials, we will postpone acting on them until the March meeting.

X. Other Reports

- A. NEA Board** – Barbara J Schram – She has three items:
She thanked everyone –
for their work in getting 10 for Public Ed in electing a new President.
for their work in the Georgia run-off elections
She mentioned the upcoming conference.
- B. NEA Resolutions** – Sidney D Kardon – The next meeting will be virtual either at the end of February or the beginning of March.
- C. NEA-Retired Executive Council** – Daniel L Rudd – The next Council meeting will be in February.

X. Staff Reports

- A. MEA Retirement/Field Services Consultant** – Paul A Helder – There are things going on that probably not involve retirees but does affect the members service credits and etc. Law affecting retirees was passed near the end of the year that dealt with the critical shortage language. The Legislature is playing around with the working after retirement language. Retirement rates are way up and have been for quite some time. He has been attending several PRIMs.
- B. MEA/MEA-Retired Executive Director** – Michael M Shoudy was unable to attend.
- C. MEA UniServ Consultant & Member/Political Organizer** – Jessica N Lumbreras was unable to attend.
- D. Other**

XI. MEA Officers

XII. Committee Updates

- A. **Annual Meeting Planning Committee** – Anne O Good
- B. **Budget Committee** – Daniel L Rudd – The Budget Committee met via emails to put together the proposed 2021-2022 budget.
- C. **Chapter Development** – Larry K Smartt
- D. **Chartering and Affiliation** – Daniel L Rudd
- E. **Communications/Web Site** – Harvey G Miller
- F. **Conference Table Committee** – Daniel L Rudd
- G. **Constitution, Bylaws and Administrative Policies** - Bill Williams
- H. **Elections** – Daniel L Rudd – We will deal with this later in the meeting.
- I. **Legislative Committee** – Karen B Zyczynski
- J. **Mentoring Committee** – Margaret K Schroder – The Committee has already met several times. They will meet again in a couple of weeks and again in May. The question was whether the mentors have to be lifetime members because of liability issue.
- K. **MPSERS** – James R Pearson – Jim reported on three things:
BC/BS has formed cooperative agreements with MPSERS some months ago covering COVID testing and treatment during the pandemic (through March 31, 2021). This may be extended.
Jim announced that he has been appointed to a vacancy on the MPSERS Board representing current retirees. He still needs advice and consent from the Legislature before it is official.
He talked about getting COVID vaccine.
- L. **MEA Committees**
 - 1. **MEA Finance Committee** – We have been told that you must be an active member to be on the committee.
 - 2. **MEA Resolutions Committee** - Penny C Letts – Waiting for updates from MEA.
 - 3. **MEA Art Acquisition** – Joellyn N Ellis – The brochure is available on the website. MEA-Retired members can submit work. Judging will be March 13th virtually.

M. NEA-Retired Extended Virtual Committees

1. **Communications** – Al E Beamish – The committee met January 7th. There were three questions – Who is the state communication chair? – How often does the communication get published? – What are your best practices?
2. **PAC/Fundraising** – Barbara J Schram/Cleorah Scruggs De-Bose – The next meeting will be on January 22nd. PAC auction for the March meeting and looking for items for the auction.
3. **Legislative/Lobbying** – Roland “Jack” Schneider
4. **Membership** – Daniel L Rudd/Iris Salters – The next meeting will be January 21st.

N. MEA Executive Committee – Daniel L Rudd – There were comments about the events of this past week. We listened to reports from the officers and various department Directors. We also looked at the proposed 2021-2022 budget which will now be transmitted to the Board for approval to send it on to the Regions for hearings. There was also discussion and suggestions around the topic of stipend for CCTF members.

O. Other

XIII. Unfinished Business

- A. MEA Scholarship Reading Dates** – Katherine A Walker-Telma – Kay has not heard anything about the reading dates.
- B. NEA and NEA-Retired Virtual Conferences – March 12-16, 2021** – Katherine A Walker-Telma – Kay reported that the cost of the NEA Leadership Summit (March 12-14 noon) will be \$25, and the cost of the Retired Conference (March 14 noon -16) will be \$30, but if you attend both the cost is only \$50. Those entitled to receive some funding are MEA-Retired Officers, Board and Committee members, as well as Chapter Presidents. NEA is allowing up to 500 members to attend the Conference. NEA will fund one of our newly retired members to attend as well as the State Retired President and Staff Liaison. In order to receive the reimbursement, the attendee must submit a brief report of the meeting along with their voucher. Registration will open on February 1st.
- C. MEA-Retired On-line Election – February 8-19, 2021** – Daniel L Rudd – We are working on setting up the on-line election. We will be sending out ballots for those that have requested them

later this month. Voting will begin February 8th at 8 AM through February 19 at 4 PM. We have 185 requests for paper ballots.

- D. **MEA Winter Conference** – Katherine A Walker-Telma – Kay said that MEA-Retired members can attend the virtual Winter Conference. She said we need to go online to see the session information. The event will be Monday, February 1st – Friday in the late afternoon and evening and end on Saturday morning, February 6th. MEA.org/conference and look at the Conference selections.
- E. **Other** -

XIV. New Business

- A. **Close Nominations for Region Director – Odd Numbered Regions** – Daniel L Rudd – It was moved by Dan Rudd and seconded by Larry Smartt to close nominations and elect by acclamation the Region Directors from the odd numbered regions except for Regions 9 and 15. These Regions will elect their director during the on-line election in February. **Motion carried.**
- B. **Close Nominations for Alternate Region Director – Odd Numbered Regions** – Daniel L Rudd - It was moved by Dan Rudd and seconded by Larry Smartt to close nominations and elect by acclamation the Alternate Region Directors from the odd numbered regions. **Motion carried.**
- C. **MEA-Retired Annual Meeting** – Katherine A Walker-Telma – The virtual meeting is Tuesday, April 6th starting at 10:00 AM. We will be using Zoom as the meeting platform. PAC delegate elections will be the same as last year with the results being mentioned during the meeting. We will hold elections, on-line, for the MAHE and ESP Liaisons to the Board and for the 2021-2022 budget. All documents will be posted on the MEA-Retired website. We need any suggestions for raising money for PAC.
- D. **MEA-Retired 2021-2022 Budget** – Daniel L Rudd – Dan went through the few changes for several line items. Lisa reported that the AIM letters brought in \$11,200 from November 25th through the end of the year. It was moved by Dan Rudd and seconded by Isabell Nazar to transmit the budget, with recommendation, to the delegates at the MEA-Retired Annual Meeting.
- E. **Actions of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee** – Daniel Rudd – All action items of the MEA-Retired Executive Committee have been acted on today.

F. Other

- XV. Board of Directors Sharing Time** – Fran mentioned that his Chapter will hold a virtual happy hour today at 4 PM.
Isabell Nazar told us that the COVID shot is therapeutic not preventative. Precautions should still be in place.
Bill Beson was thankful to Kay for her notes during the Pandemic.
Al Beamish talked about the RMD in 2020.
Jim Sparapani asked us to stay safe and healthy.

XVI. Final Remarks - Officers

- XVII. Adjournment** – It was moved by Elias Chapa and seconded by Jim Sparapani to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 PM.