

New York State Retired Teachers / Regional Council 8
 NYSUT Regional Office in New Hartford, New York
 Steering Committee Minutes
 Election District 51 / AFT #9508
Meeting Date: 10/9/18 Time: 10:00 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>	
Bender, Nancy <i>Utica</i>		Emery, Yvonne <i>Adirondack</i>	x	Schue, Dan <i>Holland Patent</i>	
Berardino, Michael <i>Waterville</i>		Fiacco, Jim <i>Oneida</i>	x	Voutsinas, Anne Marie <i>NYSUT Consultant</i>	
Brown, Kathleen "Kam" <i>Oneida</i>		Foote, Kathy – Co-Secretary <i>Clinton</i>	x	Wood, Florence <i>Whitesboro</i>	x
Carey, Wanona -Treasurer <i>Rome</i>	x	Furgal, Janet - Newsletter <i>OHM BOCES</i>		Woodarek, Barbara <i>Canastota</i>	
Cartwright-Cox, Keri <i>Oneida</i>		Gehrig, Carole – RAC <i>Whitesboro</i>	x	Zammiello, Cheryl <i>OHM BOCES</i>	x
Chomin, Helen <i>Whitesboro</i>	x	Grossman, Jeannine <i>Holland Patent</i>	x	Guests Name and School Representation:	
Cohen, Al <i>Utica</i>		Inserra, Diana <i>Oriskany</i>	x		
Corbett, Peg <i>Rome</i>	x	LaBrecque, Nan <i>Waterville</i>			
Corn, Jan – President <i>Remsen</i>	x	LaFave, Howard – Vice President <i>Adirondack</i>	x		
Cortright, Ylva <i>Sauquoit</i>		Markson, Doreen <i>New Hartford</i>			
Drake, Ken <i>VVS</i>		McQueen, Sarah <i>Oriskany</i>	x		
Duink, Marie <i>Clinton</i>		Moran, Kathy – Co-Secretary <i>Clinton</i>	x		
Dunn, Linda <i>Stockbridge-Valley</i>		Perrotti, Bill <i>MVCC PA</i>			

I. Meeting Called to Order:

- 10:02 am by **President Jan Corn**
- Notetakers Kathy Foote, Kathy Moran.
- Vote Cope report by Ed Blake - Endorsing Gillibrand and Brindisi. No Republicans were endorsed due to the APPR issues. Vote Cope pays for the phone banks. Vote Cope in general is up with active teachers but down with retirees.

- Welcome to our new member from Holland Patent - Claudette Johnson

II. Attendance: (pass the attendance list)

III. Secretary's Report:

- Corrections / Additions / Deletions:
- Double check spelling of Anne Marie Voutsinas's name
 - Motion to accept the minutes by: Howard LaFave
 - Seconded by: Florence Wood
 - Motion passed unanimously.

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

- Checking Account Balance: \$ 606.52
- Savings Account Balance: \$ 20,033.32
- NYSUT ads from last year have come through
- Starting to get participation fees coming in, especially after newsletter went out
- IRS 990 N is required to be a charity of AFT- this will show up on the next statement
- Audit committee meeting at the end of this meeting
- Grant money leftover, will discuss how to use it at next meeting

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

- NYSUT leadership conference this weekend. Raffle tickets for Strides were sold during our mtg.
- ARA - mtg 9/14/18 - Pam Hunter (Assembly person from the 128th district) was the speaker. She addressed retiree issues such as Soc Sec, taxes and the Health Care Act.
- Oneida County President's Meeting - 9/12 - local presidents updates, ED 8 Director's report, Leatherstocking Ballet needs volunteers 11/17, 10:30- 12:30, 1:30- 3:30. Still looking for a replacement for Howard Mettleman.
- Oneida County President's mtg - 10/4 - Visit from NYSUT's officers.
- Andy Pallotta spoke about new branding.
- Paul Pecorale addressed there are 230,000 retirees and growing. Retirees make up 1/3 of NYSUT's membership.
- Jolene DiBrango spoke about needing change in legislation to fight testing, and APPR.
- Randy Gunther, a political organizer assigned to the ED 8 district, spoke about needing people for phone banks.

- Legislative updates, APPR, upcoming conferences, strong union focus, retiree report.
- 4% of new people haven't joined the union, 263 people dropped out statewide. If someone leaves the union, someone from Albany calls to discuss reasons for leaving and encourage them to stay.
- MOI (Member Organizing Institute) still going on.
- Contiguous 51-53 mtg - 10/3-10/4 -Jan and Howard attended on 10/3 and Carole attended both days. 4 resolutions were proposed and a motion was made by Sarah McQueen to accept the resolutions and Florence Wood seconded it. Peter Kim (political organizer) talked about a storyteller workshop to educate and motivate active teachers with stories from retirees. Patrick Lyons addressed the need to educate members and create retirement checklists.
- RAC report, Political Organizer report.
- Oswego luncheon - 9/17/18 - Not well attended. Office of the Aging Vote/Cope.

VI. NYSUT Consultant: - *Anne Marie Voutsinas*

- No report

VII. Retiree Advisory Council: - *Carole Gehrig*

- At the last 2 meetings the focus has been on how retirees can raise money for retirees services? Due to Janus there have been many cuts. One idea was to raise active members dues by \$3.00 a year but there are no firm ideas yet.
- RAC wants to have a "value" statement to express "What is value of being involved in the union as a retiree?" This is being worked on.
- There was a Single Health Payee insurance discussion led by Dr George Jolly, a retired doctor from Saratoga, and how it would save most doctors about 20% in their billing.

● **VIII. Newsletter: - *Janet Furgal***

- Janet would like the next luncheon information to be in the Jan/Feb and March/April newsletters with possibly a Save The Date memo.
- Peg is going to be writing an article on health insurance with an emphasis on Medicare.

- Deadline for the next newsletter is: 11/1/2018

● **Old Business:**

- Last month Jan introduced a confidentiality form to get new retiree info as they retire to only be used for ED 8 purposes and NYSUT business only.

- With this in mind a motion was made by Florence Wood to accept the Resolution of new Retirees membership list of RC 8 confidentiality, non-disclosure agreement. It was seconded by Howard. The vote was divided. There were 14 yes and 2 no.
- Howard had a Quick Retiree Guide that listed member benefits and was quite helpful.
- There will be a pre-retirement workshop on 11/3. There will be legal, TRS and ERS reps available. A location will be decided once number of people are determined.
- The fall luncheon only had 2 people not show. Brindisi sent a representative to speak and someone who was attending also asked to speak. There was also the keynote speaker, Ken DeStefano(NYSUT LRS) who spoke about health insurance and a College Works speaker.

Committee Reports:

A. Luncheon Committee: - Howard, Marie, Sarah, Diana, Nancy

- Next (Spring) Luncheon: Location: Tentatively New Hartford Legion

Date: 5/16/2018 Time: _____ Cost/Person: \$ _____

Speaker: A spokesperson from the sheriff's department. Topic: Safety for Seniors

C. Legislative Issues Committee: - Howard, Carole

- Al Cohen, who wasn't present, asked to share that there are phone banks for Brindisi every Tues/Thurs at 287 Genesee St
- Carole addressed the issue of needing canvassers to go door to door .
- Kirkland Democrats - helped to get Rachel May nominated for Senate

D. Labor Council Representative(s): - Wanona

- Samantha and Enesa are touring local industries to learn the needs of labor in industries
- Gompers Award Dinner will be 10/26 at Hart's Hill Inn with reservations coming in slowly. Format will be slightly different and the open bar will be beer and wine
- Buttenschon has been endorsed
- Labor walk on 9/29 needs volunteers
- Motion was approved to donate \$300 to purchase 1000 meals for MVCC's 30,000 Meals food drive
- Nurses cause for the month of October is Domestic Violence with 2,000 purple ribbons to help the community. Next meeting we can discuss RC 8 donating to this cause in the future.
- UFCW - DiNapoli is coming Saturday 10/13 Labor Walk

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

Conversation in Syracuse was about the election. Brindisi and Tenney have been running about 2 points apart

- Next ARA mtg is 10/12

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

- "Meet and Greet:" Marble Hill - Two new retirees attended and joined
- Oswego - no new retirees attended
- Rome - one new retiree attended
- Next meeting will discuss what to do with leftover grant money

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

- Next mtg - 10/22 - RC 7 & 8 in Syracuse

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

- No report

I. Election Committee: - *Florence, Helen, Jeannine*

- No report

J. Public Relations Committee: - *Jan*

- Jan attended a luncheon at New Hartford. She wasn't asked to speak and it was mostly a social get together. We need to continue to work to get RC 8's name out there.

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

- Encourage people who can't get to the polling booths to get absentee ballots online, at town clerk's office or Board of Elections offices. ex: seniors who can't get out, college students who are attending school out of town or state.

L. Social Justice & Mission Outreach: - *Helen, Janet, Cheryl, Sarah, Marie, Nancy, Linda*

- \$500 was collected at the luncheon for College works
- working on next luncheon
- Will discuss donating to the food banks next meeting

M. Sunshine: - *Janet*

- Marie Duink had a new grandson born today.

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

- No report

Discussion Topic(s):

- Peg mentioned there is a member benefits conference in Albany 10/26-27th

New Business:

- Grant money that is leftover, \$200ish, will be discussed next mtg.
- Carole mentioned there were about 20 people at the Dunham Library for National Voter's Registration Day.

Questions and Comments:

- None

Local Reports: (see separate sheet)

Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn was made by: Florence Wood
- Seconded by: Jeannine Grossman
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Meeting was adjourned at: 12:15

School District	Local Reports / Shared Information:
Adirondack	
OHM BOCES	
Canastota	
Clinton	
Holland Patent	
New Hartford	
Oneida	
Oriskany	
Remsen	

Rome	
Sauquoit	
Stockbridge Valley	
Utica	
VVS	
Waterville	
Whitesboro	
Others:	
Camden	
New York Mills	