

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: March 12 ,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>	X	Emery, Yvonne <i>Adirondack</i>			
Berardino, Michael <i>Waterville</i>		Fiacco, Jim <i>Oneida</i>		Voutsinas, Anne Marie <i>NYSUT Consultant</i>	X
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>	X	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>	X	Insera, Diana <i>Oriskany</i>	X	Ed Blake Vote/Cope	
Corbett, Peg <i>Rome</i>	X	Johnson, Claudette HP	X		
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>			
Duink, Marie <i>Clinton</i>	X	Moran, Kathy – Co-Secretary <i>Clinton</i>			
Dunn, Linda <i>Stockbridge-Valley</i>		Perrotti, Bill <i>MVCC PA</i>			

I. Meeting Called to Order:

- 10:06 am by **President Jan Corn**
- Notetaker, Kathy Foote

II. Attendance: (pass the attendance list)

III. Secretary's Report:

- Corrections / Additions / Deletions:
- None
 - Motion to accept the minutes by: Florence Wood
 - Seconded by: Claudette Johnson
 - Motion passed unanimously.

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

- Checking Account Balance: \$178.01
- Savings Account Balance: \$22,550.48
- Other Treasury Information:
- Many chapters have been sending in their participation fees. A thank you note was sent out to those districts. Another note will be mailed by middle of March to those districts whose fees are not in yet. This will be helpful to start the budget process.
- This years RA is close by and will not be as expensive so there will extra money towards next year.

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

- Correspondence - ARA sent a certificate and thank you, which is on the wall in the office.
- Ukulele winner from last luncheon was retiree: Jim Jivoff

1/25/19 - Community Legislative Forum was held at Hart's Hill. The panel consisted of Senators, Congressmen, Assembly members, County Execs, etc. Each person was given a question to address and the theme was New Growth and Bipartisan Cooperation.

1/11/19 ARA - Onondaga Recycling Center - Andrew Radin spoke. Suggestion was made to get a recycling speaker from our area to speak at one of luncheons. Very informative.

3/18/19 ARA - Michael Moore's movie - 11/9.

2/8/19 - Labor Council Legislative Breakfast - There was a large panel composed of Congressman Brindisi, Senators, Assembly members and the theme was health care, vocational training, gun legislation, bipartisan cooperation. Informative meeting but ran 3 hrs long. Maybe scale down in the future. Brindisi is looking for people to serve on an advisory committee if anyone is interested.

2/7/19 - Oneida County Presidents - Vote/Cope is up (retirees down but everyone else is up)

New PAC coordinator : Kristen Vivaqua
NYSUT membership numbers are very solid

3/7/19 - OCP - Committee of 100

Fall Leadership Conference 10/5 and 6. Clayton, NY

Need Strides Raffle Volunteers

Vote Cope - Thank you to the Utica Region

Red Flag Law - Not passed but being proposed. Teachers would need to report if they are aware of any weapons in a home with "at risk" kids

3/26-27 - ED 51 Meeting - Utica Delta Marriott

3/25/19 - ED 7 &8 Meeting - Syracuse RO - to prepare for RA

5/3 , 4/19 - RA Albany

Legislative News : APPR - passed both house and now on governor's desk

Union dues can be deducted for taxes by actives

Butch Lewis Act

Local chapter luncheon meetings in New Hartford, Holland Patent and Oriskany were all attended by Jan.

Committee of 100 - Met with Salka, Buttenschon and Griffo. The issues discussed were budgets, tax cap, teacher centers, SUNY & CUNY, SUNY hospitals.

Vote Cope - Ed Blake reported that Vote Cope is up considerably from last year. It was up about \$20,000 and the retirees were up about \$10,000. The downside is only 20% retirees contributed and we need to work to increase this. In our locals we should stress pension deductions. After discussion it was decided to get more information out as to how the Vote Cope money is used.

VI. NYSUT Consultant: - *Anne Marie Voutsinas*

- Conference is 5/29/19 in Syracuse at the Doubletree Hotel. Hoping to bring the cost down this year. Invitations coming out as everything is going to the printers. There are a variety of speakers and entertainment.

VII. Retiree Advisory Council: - *Carole Gehrig*

- A report has been presented to the board of directors but can't be discussed until they've made a decision on it.
- There have been less than 500 who have dropped out due to Janus. Membership has actually increased after Janus.
- Next meeting is 6/5/19.

VIII. Newsletter: - *Janet Furgal*

- Newsletter went through the first time
- Deadline for the next newsletter is: 5/1/19

Old Business:

- Money left over from grant was discussed to be possibly used for a pre-retirement workshop. Will be held off for now.
- No one stepped up to fill in for Ken as the webmaster while he was gone.

Committee Reports:

Program Committee: - Howard, Marie, Sarah, Diana , Nancy

- Spring Luncheon: Location: New Hartford American Legion Post

Date: 5/16

Speaker: Sheriff Maciol Topic: Safe Seniors

Fall luncheon - When: October 17, 2019 Where: Hart's Hill Inn Speaker: Oneida- Herkimer Solid Waste Management. Cost: \$18.00

C. Legislative Issues Committee: - *Howard, Carole*

- Committee of 100 - Sen. Seward was a no show
- Janus not just going after public schools but trying to break all unions.
- Indivisible Groups - trying to build bench with locals. Support locals who are running.
- Committee keeping track of how Brindisi and Buttenschon are voting

D. Labor Council Representative(s): - *Wanona*

- Free tax prep through United Way if income is under \$56,000.
- St Pat's parade 3/16.
- Heart Run a great success.

- Labor of Love project - Meet at Oriskany Library for those who love to knit and crochet on Mondays from 6-8:00. Looking for yarn donations. Call 315-735-6101 to join.
- 5/11 - Letter carriers "Stamp out Hunger" will be collecting food donations.
- Golf outing and United way kickoff on 8/10. Committee needed.
- April 28th - Worker Memorial Day but won't be celebrated till May 2,

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

- Film 11/9

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

- No report

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

- No report

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

- 3/23 Mtg for Utica School District at 400 Faxton St. 3 - 5:00. Tax payers concerned with armed officers coming into the elementary schools.

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

- No report

J. Public Relations Committee: - *Jan*

- No report

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

- No report

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

- Committee needs to come up with a suggestion for the fall luncheon. It was suggested to have two possibilities for future luncheons.

M. Sunshine: - *Janet*

- Card being sent to Vincent Ciccarino to remember his wife

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

- Due by 4/3

Discussion Topic(s):

- None

New Business:

- None

Local Reports: (see separate sheet)

Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn was made by: Howard LaFavre
- Seconded by: Jeannine Grossman
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Meeting was adjourned at: 12:00

School District	Local Reports / Shared Information:
Adirondack	3 board seats available. Thinking of closing Forestport Elementary
OHM BOCES	
Canastota	
Clinton	
Holland Patent	
New Hartford	
Oneida	
Oriskany	Retired bus driver turning 100 on 3/24
Remsen	
Rome	Budget not looking good. Possible layoffs, program cuts. Rally 3/28 prior to board meeting
Sauquoit	
Stockbridge Valley	
Utica	45 retirees

VVS	
Waterville	
Whitesboro	
Others:	
Camden	
New York Mills	