

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: May 14, 2019 Time: 10:00 am

Attendance: X = in Attendance

Steering Committee Member Representing School District		Steering Committee Member Representing School District		Steering Committee Member Representing School District	
Bender, Nancy <i>Utica</i>		Emery, Yvonne <i>Adirondack</i>	X	Voutsinas, Anne Marie <i>NYSUT Consultant</i>	
Carey, Wanona -Treasurer <i>Rome</i>	X	Fiacco, Jim <i>Oneida</i>	X	Wood, Florence <i>Whitesboro</i>	X
Cartwright-Cox, Keri <i>Oneida</i>	X	Foote, Kathy – Co-Secretary <i>Clinton</i>	X	Woodarek, Barbara <i>Canastota</i>	X
Chomin, Helen <i>Whitesboro</i>	X	Furgal, Janet - Newsletter <i>OHM BOCES</i>	X	Zammiello, Cheryl <i>OHM BOCES</i>	X
Cohen, Al <i>Utica</i>	X	Gehrig, Carole – RAC <i>Whitesboro</i>	X	Guests Name and School Representation:	
Corbett, Peg <i>Rome</i>	X	Grossman, Jeannine <i>Holland Patent</i>	X		
Corn, Jan – President <i>Remsen</i>	X	Inserra, Diana <i>Oriskany</i>	X		
Cortright, Ylva <i>Sauquoit</i>	X	Johnson, Claudette <i>Holland Patent</i>	X		
Drake, Ken <i>VVS</i>	X	LaFave, Howard – Vice President <i>Adirondack</i>			
Duink, Marie <i>Clinton</i>	X	Markson, Doreen <i>New Hartford</i>	X		
Dunn, Linda <i>Stockbridge-Valley</i>		McQueen, Sarah <i>Oriskany</i>	X		
		Moran, Kathy – Co-Secretary <i>Clinton</i>	X		
		Perrotti, Bill <i>MVCC PA</i>			

I. Meeting Called to Order:

- 10:07 am by **President Jan Corn.**
- Notetaker: Kathy Foote, Kathy Moran

II. Attendance: attached

III. Secretary’s Report: Kathy Foote, Kathy Moran

- Corrections / Additions / Deletions: None

- Motion to accept minutes: Florence Wood
- Seconded: Jeannine Grossman
- Motion passed: Unanimously

IV. Treasurer's Report: Wanona Carey

- Checking Account Balance: \$187.63
- Savings Account Balance: \$24,513.67
- Proposed 2019-20 budget should basically stay the same
- Hart's Hill Inn check seems to have gotten lost in the mail; Jan will hand carry new check today
- RA expenses ~ very reasonable, held in Albany, only one night

V. President's Report: Jan Corn

- RA May 3-4 Commissioned Elia addressed state testing, did not directly answer questions. Pressure being exerted to "correct the test". NYSUT would like Elia out.
- NYSUT Officer reports
- Paul Pecorale will not be running again
- Speakers: Randi Weingartner (AFT), Tim Ryan (Presidential candidate from Ohio), Maria Cilento (AFL-CIO), Tom DiNapoli (NYS Comptroller), Michael Benedetto (NYS Assembly), Lily Eskelsen (NEA President)
- Sergeants' meeting
- Breakfast the next day
- Jolene DiBrango is head of the up and coming NYSUT Women's Committee
- Social Justice
- After the end of the first general session~ committee meetings on various topics ~ work safety, where pension money is being invested
- April 12, Syracuse: ARA (NYS Alliance for Retired Americans) Eastern Farm Workers' Association- working to eliminate farm workers' poverty. Looking to start a newsletter.
- April 18, Albany: Annual ARA Conference: Speakers: Tom DiNapoli, NYS Comptroller~assured everyone our pensions are in good shape, Derek Ayeh, Medical Right Center~ good information, Maureen Dunn, ARA, Stephen Madarasz, ARA, Key Note speaker~ how to take interesting pictures with your cell phone, Tish James, NYS Attorney General, addressed how people aren't ready for retirement, Barry Kaufmann, ARA, discussed ARA actions and Legislative issues.
- May 10, ARA, Syracuse, Office for the Aging~ Greg Olsen (past ARA president) the number of older Americans is increasing and older Americans have great value

VI. NYSUT Consultant: - *Anne Marie Voutsinas*

- Still time to sign up for conference in Syracuse, May 29

VII. Retiree Advisory Council: - *Carole Gehrig*

- Next meeting~ June 5. Still no decision if the report has been accepted, no charge yet as what will be worked on for next year

VIII. Newsletter: - *Janet Furgal*

- Newsletter has been accepted with no changes needed.
- Newsletter is done till the fall

Old Business:

- Discussion in the fall on writing a grant. Leftover grant discussion continues

Committee Reports:

A. Program Committee: - *Howard, Marie, Sarah, Diana, Nancy*

- Spring Luncheon: May 16, New Hartford VFW Approximately 72 guests
- Speaker: Rob Maciol Topic: Senior Safety

B. Luncheon Speaker:

- Fall Luncheon: October 17, Harts Hill Inn
- Speaker: Solid Waste Management

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

- Brindisi has been supporting teacher issues
- Meeting every Friday afternoon at Brindisi's office lobby to write concerns and issues

D. Labor Council Representative: - *Wanona*

- 2 new delegates~ Beth Hall, CSEA and Derek Carr, SEIU
- Candidates were interviewed and a list of candidates was presented. There will be a special meeting on May 16 to address concerns regarding voting procedures.
- UTA in interviewing Rome teachers who have been laid off and has hired 10. Will continue to interview
- June 6 is "pouring day" for Saranac Thursday, need 15 volunteers
- June 11 is annual Labor Agency meeting, openings for VP and Secretary

- June 25 is DAY of Action with sponsors, people needed to pack food

E. CNYARA Representatives: *Florence, Carole, Jan*

- No Report

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*

- Problems with state testing, advise locals to report issues

Election Committee: - *Florence, Helen, Jeannine*

- Next election 2020, 3-year term

J. Public Relations Committee: - *Jan*

- Focus in on luncheon, excited about so many districts represented

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

- June 3 meeting to discuss endorsements. NYSUT does not endorse but AFT does
- August 8 meeting to deal with presidential endorsements. AFTvotes.org for additional info

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

- Next meeting will discuss what to do with leftover money
- A motion made by Jeannine Grossman to donate \$300. to the Summer CNY Food Bank. Motion was seconded by Keri Cartwright. Passed unanimously.
- Compassion Coalition is looking for volunteers at the teachers' store to package food and clothing. Jan is going to contact them for a possible speaker.

M. Sunshine: - *Janet*

- Many cards have been sent out this year.

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

- This year's well deserved recipient is JAN CORN !!!!

Discussion Topic(s):

- June 4, SRP Lobby Day
- Jan read email from Andy Pallotta, very positive and uplifting

New Business:

- In the past we have given office ladies a monetary gift at the end of the year. Suggestions made to do something different~ donate to charity of their choosing, gift card to local establishments~ discussion will continue next month
- Sarah McQueen attended OHM insurance consortium meeting. Insurance is going up 5.5% but next year could possibly go down. Discussion of possible consortium mergers. Meetings are twice a year, teachers may not speak during meetings.
- Marie Duink will be leaving RC8 for now, Clinton will be sending new rep in the fall. *Thanks for all your hard work Marie!*

Local Reports: See separate sheet

Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn was made by: Florence Wood
- Seconded by: Jim Fiacco
- Motion passed unanimously
- Meeting was adjourned at: 12:00

Next Meeting:

School District	Local Reports / Shared Information:
Adirondack	Yvonne will report next month on the elections in ADK
OHM BOCES	
Canastota	
Clinton	
Holland Patent	
New Hartford	

Oneida	
Oriskany	Negotiations are on-going. Talk of having one principal, K-12, is making people want to protest by voting NO on the budget. Sarah is looking for suggestions on how other districts set up scholarships from retirees
Remsen	
Rome	
Sauquoit	
Stockbridge Valley	
Utica	
VVS	
Waterville	
Whitesboro	
Others:	
Camden	
New York Mills	