

AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 161
July 2019 Members' Meeting

The July 17 meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Pat, who presided over the meeting, asked if there were any new members. There were none. Roll call was taken. All officers were present and accounted for, except for Mary, who was excused.

Charlie gave the president's report. He said, "As of January, 2017, everything changed. Before, the attitude was 'Let AFSCME take care of it. That's why I pay dues.' Then there were attacks on the union.

"Mary is at the NOW convention in Minnesota.

"We have a one year gap. We'll have an election in 2019 to extend the term of officers for one year, and new elections in 2020.

"Concerning the convention, only I vote; the others will be there to make connections with other union members. The region is preparing a resolution; there will be a new resolution ten days before the convention from retiree subchapters.

"We will have polo shirts for retirees, they'll cost \$45-\$50 apiece. Let's discuss it.

"Regarding the communications committee, there's a letter to go out to our members.

"Our enemies spend a lot of money; they realize there are not enough old, White, conservative voters."

Mary Raquel asked, "Since Chicago is democratic, can we work in Wisconsin?"

Dave said, "When we talked to people at the convention, half were retirees."

Marlene asked, "Could we find out when they have town halls? Everybody knows older people are the voters."

Mary Raquel countered, "Millennials are voting."

John said, "I've printed up business cards with the subchapter voice mail number."

Ron read the June 2019 minutes. Charlie corrected him, saying the name was C.J. Hawking, not C.J. Hawkins. Marlene corrected the minutes, saying windfall profits apply to those with under, not over 30 years of service. With these corrections, the minutes were accepted.

Walt said, "By doing public service, we paid the penalty."

Karl asked, "Is there a move to eliminate that? Have AFSCME retirees taken a stand on that? We should work with the IRTA to eliminate it."

Walt said, "They give me a set amount for working in the private sector; I got a reduced amount of Social Security."

Karl said, "Some of us had second jobs; windfall profits goes back thirty years to Rostenkowski."

John said, "We should write a resolution."

Jesse gave the treasurer's report. He said, "The beginning balance was \$29,644.98. Three checks were written in June, a check for \$350 to the Alliance for Retired Americans for Subchapter 161's dues, and \$100 to the Illinois single payer coalition and a check to John Metz for IT services, leaving \$498 in total checks. There was a deposit of \$663.52 for the rebate from Council 31. The present balance is \$29,810.51"

Dave said, "I'm still on the list for Chapter 60."

Tony said, "You may be on the roster for Subchapter 161, but still on Chapter 60's mailing list. Mailing lists are forever, like diamonds."

Charlie answered, "I emailed Maria; I don't know the status of people. I should be able to tell you by the next meeting."

A motion was made to accept the secretary/treasurer's report; the motion carried.

Pat announced the interim audit report for 2018.

Marlene said, "We did 2018, we did 2017, but didn't finish. I need two hours more at the library. All checks were double-signed. Jesse was really organized; we almost finished it."

Jesse said, "At the end of the session, we had lunch."

Marlene added, "Charlie said it will be paid for."

Pat said, "At the convention, there will be five observer attendees; only the president votes."

Dave said, "We should get more than one vote."

Ron asked, "What is the date of the convention?"

Charlie replied, "October 16 and October 17."

Chaya pointed out, "Our IRTA convention is in mid-October at the Crown Plaza."

Pat asked for a show of hands of who wants to go.

MacArthur, Ron, Dave, Jesse, and Nancy will be the attendees; Tony will be the alternate attendee.

Ron said, "The convention will be on the third Wednesday of the month, the day of our meeting."

Pat said, "Perhaps we could move the meeting to the fourth Wednesday of the month."

A motion was made to move the date of the meeting to October 23; the motion carried.

Pat brought up the greeting on voicemail.

John said, "Yes, Charlie and I will draft a letter, with a postcard."

Tony said, "One call I made, she said send it to me in the mail."

Dave said, "Include an invitation to the luncheon. We're asking everyone to make a few calls, one or two calls an evening. Each time you try, you'll get more comfortable with the flow of it."

Ron said, "I made about sixteen calls, and reached 8 people. I don't want to call before 9:30 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m."

Pat said, "I made ten phone calls, and got seven voicemails. When is a good time to call?"

Ron answered, "When it rains or it is 100 degrees. I called most of them at 10:30 a.m."

Dave said, "John will take the packets."

Mildred said, "I made ten or twelve calls and left messages. One message was, 'I have your number; now leave a message.'"

Pat asked, "Is there any new business?"

Charlie said, "I'm passing this to Dave."

Dave led the Hackneyed Trio (Dave, Tony and Charlie) in singing “The Rich, Racist and Self-Righteous,” a parody of “Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered.” Pat joined in, making it a quartet. The parody was written by Tony and his wife Rochelle.

Chaya asked, “Are you hiring yourselves out?” She went on to mention Northshore, Thursday, September 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge on Lee St. in Des Plaines. State Senator Ram Villavillam will be speaking. Admission is \$25. She said, “I have news from Dr. Lora Chamberlain. 5G microwaves and 5G wireless radiation have not been tested for safety. The League of Women Voters of Illinois had a convention, and promoted House Joint Resolution 7, a constitutional amendment that would end the Electoral College.”

Walt said, “About 5G microwave radiation, a few years ago, legislation was passed. People thought it would block 5G, but it gave the city council the ability to implement it.”

Nancy said, “In my alley, there are light poles with a long arm that are not connected.”

Chaya advised, “Call your alderwoman, Maria Hugo.”

Diane said, “The DHS offices were leased from Imperial Realty. There was a cell phone tower on top of the building. We got a guy from OSHA to measure the radiation. We weren’t exposed to it. Maybe we could have a speaker to talk about 5G.”

Marlene said, “Don’t put your cell phone to your ear.”

Diane added, “I belong to an alliance of organizations. We’re holding a town hall. We were fighting with the city colleges to hold it there. It will be held at Uplift High School, 900 W. Wilson, on July 24.”

Mary Raquel said, “Florida, Washington and one other state are eliminating food stamps to people on drugs.”

Nancy asked, “Do they offer treatment when they ban it?”

The next meeting will be August 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

