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## **AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 161 August 2019 Members' Meeting**

**The August 21st meeting was called to order at 11:49 a.m. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. All officers were present and accounted for.**

**Charlie gave the president's report. He said, "Our speaker can't come and talk. We'll reschedule. The organization our speaker is representing is CACOSH, the Chicago Area Committee on Occupational Safety and Health. I know them. I worked with them at 1891. Next month, Maria Britton-Sipe will visit us. That's her annual visit. We had a real good Executive Board meeting last night. We'll try to check in electronically, order before the meeting, and take care of our business before the speaker speaks. We have a number of events to discuss. There's a quarterly meeting Sept 6. On September 7, the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans convention will be in Ottawa from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We'll have a comfortable van. It will be a constitutional convention. You can meet people who are not AFSCME retirees, such as retired teachers and retired steelworkers. This coming Monday, the Chicago Metro Retirees meet in the SEIU Healthcare Building at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Halsted. Concerning the convention, we have our own conference in October. Only the president has a vote, but I will have five guests. We'll vote on costs: Amtrak, the per diem, the hotel. Holiday Inn has free breakfast. At the conference, we'll nominate people for the honor roll. What do you think about honoring Jenny Esler? We'll discuss it later on."**

**Tony read the August 2019 minutes. The minutes were accepted.**

**Jesse gave the treasurer's report. He said, "The beginning balance for July 1 was \$29,810.50. One check was paid out, \$70 to our president for reimbursement of office supplies. Subchapter 161 received a rebate of \$662.64 from Council 31. The ending balance was \$30, 403.14."**

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

**John said, "We have been in the process of updating our roster. We've had 200 planned phone calls; we have information from twenty to thirty members. We've sent cards, we got back twenty. Of three hundred members we've tried to contact, we have forty to fifty, and we're still in the process.**

**"Instead of using a paper sign-in sheet, we're passing around an IPAD. Fill out the form on the IPAD today, and at later meetings, you'll just check a box if you're a previous attendee.**

**"Each meeting can benefit from having a flyer. We'll probably have a sample next month. The flyer will have a copy of last month's minutes for you to read, and will have our subchapter's contact information: our voicemail number, our website and our email address."**

**Charlie said, "We mailed letters with prepaid cards, some people sent the cards back in envelopes, so they care about their privacy. If you'd like to join us, we'll be doing some envelope stuffing.**

**"Mary's been working on the ERA. We need the ERA. We are a nation of two paychecks. If we lose one, that's half the income."**

**Mary gave the vice-president's report. She said, "I attended the national convention of the National Organization of Women. There was a celebration of women who kicked ass and were elected to office in 2018. If we have a chance in 2020, turnout is critical. It's the difference between victory and defeat. Women will fight the attacks on the social safety net and reproductive rights. Our opponents are on the march to legally establish fetal rights, which sounds cool, but puts women in legal liability.**

**"The Jane Addams Senior Caucus Healthcare and Economic Justice Committee meets on Monday, August 26.**

**"I've brought envelopes. If you live in Quigley's district, the fifth Congressional District, sign for single-payer.**

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**“Labor Day Tuesday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Pullman, there will be a presentation on women in the labor force; see our website for more information.”**

**“The Alliance for Community Services is having a fundraiser on Saturday, September 7. I’ve given details to John Metz; they’re on our website. I propose we pay \$200 to get a table for this fundraiser.**

**The Chicago National Organization for Women fundraiser is October 2, in the evening. Women who push the women’s agenda will be honored.”**

**Charlie said, regarding the developmentally disabled, “Fran Tobin is doing a heroic job of helping these people learn skills. She’s speaking Saturday, September 7, at the Alliance.”**

**Marlene asked, “Can we get her as a speaker?”**

**Charlie replied, “I think I can.”**

**Charlie continued, “We need to give speakers an honorarium.”**

**There was a motion for \$120 to send one person to go with Charlie to Springfield in September.**

**Charlie said, “We’ve got pay for van rental to Ottawa for the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans meeting from 9:00 to 3:30, Saturday, September 7. I’ll pick you up at 7:30. There’ll be seven people times \$20 equals \$140 for the luncheon plus \$305 equals \$445.**

**A motion was made for a van for seven people; the motion carried.**

**Charlie added, “Last, but not least, we have a mailer, the cost is about \$800, for printing and buying postcards and first class stamps. Can I have a motion for \$800 for the mailing?”**

**The motion was seconded and carried.**

**The next meeting will be September 18.**

**John pointed out that our Election Day is September 18.**

**Mary said, “The Alliance for Community Services is having a fundraiser, at the Chicago Teachers Union building at 1901 W. Carroll St., Saturday night on September 7. The reception is at 6:30 p.m.**

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**Charlie said, "There is a conflict, the motion is withdrawn. Could we send them a donation of \$100?"**

**A motion was made; the motion carried.**

**Mike Schoenberg said, "There was an article on Social Security in the June 2019 issue of *On the Move*, "Social Security and the 2020 COLA." We've been blessed with low inflation. This year the COLA (cost of living adjustment) is 2.8%, which is good. In 2020, the COLA will be 1.8%. AFSCME and the Alliance of Retired Americans are proponents of a more accurate measure of inflation."**

**Charlie asked, "Could I get a speaker to address this?"**

**Pat asked, "Should we have a U-shaped group of tables or today's separate tables? I like the U-shape."**

**Someone said, "We should table this till the next meeting."**

**Charlie said, "The wait staff says it's harder to get around the tables with the U-shape. Let's have a motion to suspend this. We'll hold this 'til October."**

**A motion was made to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.**