

AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 161 September 2019 Members Meeting

The September 18th meeting was called to order at 11.30 A.M.

We recited the pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. All officers except Tony Zappia were present and accounted for.

Charlie gave the Presidents report. A link was set up for members to phone in messages. Supplemental mailings will be done in the near future with volunteers to help stuff envelopes, Issues with the Illinois Policy Institute were discussed. New members to our monthly meeting were introduced. They were Hamatza Patal and David Merrick.

Maria Britton-Sipe (Retirement coordinator in Springfield) was introduced. Issues discussed was that Illinois has the worst funded pensions. However the state has the strongest union and strongest pension protection of any state in the union. Retirement benefits cannot be diminished. Talked about why pension funding is going broke. IMRF is best funded pension in the state.

Defined pension systems make the most sense. Pensions nationwide are being eliminated while CEO pay keeps going up. If people are given choices they will take their pension money up front. Illinois produces 52 cents per dollar of investments. AFSCME help defeat bill that would limit pension benefits. Retirees have power in Springfield and are an educated and large voter block. Retirees are encouraged to join the retiree union, Also retirees should support the fair tax bill. State of Illinois will not tax pensions for those who live in Illinois. Maria took questions.

Election nominations occurred and chaired by Joe Bella. Nominations for President were Charlie Hogan and Walt Esler. Charlie was Elected as Walt withdrew his nomination. Nomination of Secretary Treasure was Jesse Wilson. No other Nominations. Jesse was elected. Nominations for Vice President was Mary Bennett. No other nominations and Mary was elected. Nomination for Recording Secretary was Ron Smolin and Tony Zappia. Ron withdrew his nomination and Tony Zappia was elected.

Nomination for Trustees(3 Positions) were David Rolston, Nancy Kullpi, Mildred Harris and Walt Esler. Mildred withdrew her Nomination.

David, Nancy and Walt were elected. Nomination for the Executive board.(3 Positions) were MacArthur Diggs, John Metz, Diana Stokes and Ron Smolin. MacArthur and John were elected. Diana was not present and awaiting her confirmation to accept the position. If she does not accept the position, Ron Smolin will accept the position. All who were present were sworn in to their positions. Tony, Diane and Ron were not present or not able to be sworn in.

Charlie Hogan requested 160 dollars for meeting (8 members to attend) in Ottawa and 200 dollars for a van rental. Motion was approved. Charlie also requested 750 dollars for the Amtrack tickets, also car transportation for Ron Smolin and 866 for the hotel room in Springfield (Holiday Inn Express) and per Diem of 550 dollars for those going to the State retiree convention from 10/15/19 to 10/17/19. Motion was approved for certain members who were approved to attend the convention.

John Metz from communication committee reported that 500 more mailings were sent to members and 300 hundred more will be sent by the end of October. John thanked those who volunteered earlier to stuff envelopes. Blue sheet was passed around looking for volunteers to stuff envelopes at next communication meeting talked about using the IPAD for signing in for meetings in the near future.

Vice President report was about a fundraiser on 10/2/19 for a "Woman who dare group at 3656 north Halstead. in Chicago.

Secretary Treasure report was submitted for September 2019 in writing. The ending balance as of 8/1/19 was \$30,403.14. No checks were paid out in August 2019. Also our Mother Chapter 31 sent us a rebate check for \$682.88. The ending balance as of 9/18/19 is now \$31,086.02. for Sub Chapter 161. Motion was approved to accept Treasure report in writing

The August 2019 Minutes were submitted in writing and motion was approved to accept those minutes

Motion to adjourn meeting was approved at 1.17pm.