

AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 161 December 9, 2020
Executive Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at about 11:30 a.m. (I had trouble with my computer and came in about 11:40 a.m.) Tony, Ron, Diane, Jesse, John, Marlene, MacArthur and Mary were present. Mr. Fran Tobin was a guest. Diane presided over the meeting.

Fran said, "In institutions, there are multiple people in each room. They can't social distance. This includes nursing homes and Cook County Jail. We're looking for groups to join the coalition, groups taking people out of institutions, into hotels, where they get better care.

"Would the subchapter join the coalition and the alliance?"

John asked about the cost.

Fran said, "With the coalition, there's no fee. You participate in advocacy. With the alliance membership, there's an investment of time. Don't put in money from your own treasury unless you have the capacity."

Ron asked, "Are people in restaurants and large groups spreading Covid to nursing homes?"

Fran said, "The virus is brought in by workers, and spreads like wildfire."

Diane said, "SEIU had a strike in nursing homes for lack of PPE and low wages. This is an issue unions have to get behind."

Fran said, "Even with more PPE and lockdowns, more than half of deaths are among 1% of the population. 6% of people in institutions are dead; less than 1% of the disabled at home died."

Diane asked, "Do you want to make a motion to join the Alliance?"

John moved that a motion be brought up at the membership meeting.

The audit was discussed.

The minutes of the October 4, 2020 executive board meeting were read and accepted.

Diane said, "I'd like us to organize a political action committee. It will help analyze the period we're going into and what we can do in relation to AFSCME in general and the budget." Diane also discussed what happened at the PEOPLE meeting that she and Norma attended.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.