AFSCME RETIREE LOCAL 4041

MEMBER MEETING

502 East John Street

Carson City, Nevada

602 S, Rancho Drive Unit C24

Las Vegas, Nevada

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Charlie Muller called the meeting to order at about 10:00 a.m. with the salute to the flag, Others present were: Vice President Roger Bremner, Treasurer Patty Machal, Secretary Sandra Hudgens, Director North Steve Suwe, Director-at-Large Frank Papaianni, Director South Laura Leavitt, Trustees Fred Suwe and Joan Papaianni, Lobbyist Priscilla Maloney, and guests: Scott Watts, Gail Dietrich, Corean Baker and Jason Haenel. In Las Vegas besides Laura were Carlos Lopez and Deb Burko.

Carlos was introduced as the retiree organizer for AFSCME on the phone. He was in training with Laura and Jason. He talked about a mailer and getting more members to join. He talked about doing a mailer in Oregon. He will get more details later. He will be in Carson City next month for a meeting. He said to get a permit from the local post office.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2017

Priscilla was concerned the minutes shows the treasurer’s report when the minutes are posted on the Website. We had voted against showing the amount in previous minutes. It was decided to maintain the treasurer’s report in the minutes and erase the amount before placing them on the website. Patty made the motion to accept the minutes and Frank seconded them and the motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Charlie started his report by introducing Corean Baker from the sub-chapter in Las Vegas which is composed with AFSCME retirees from other states. Jason was also introduced from AFSCME International. He also welcomed Scotty and Gail from NARA and ARA respectively. Charlie then brought up the topic of the new printer and where to locate it. Also discussed was the fact that we needed a bigger facility

Charlie mentioned attending the Nevada Blue dinner with Roger. Chris Guinchilianni was the speaker, the Democratic candidate running for governor.

Further discussed was the fact that PERS will send out mailers for RPEN which is what we plan to do, also. We must change the address on our old application cards. Since we have so many applications, we can attach a sticker with the correct address until we can have new cards made. Steve made up an application on the Website. He will work with Jason to improve it.

Steve made the motion to open a post office box and Roger seconded the motion. That will alleviate the problem of address change if we move again. The motion carried. Steve and Charlie will have the keys.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Roger said the Blue Dinner was capitol and Frank and Joanie also attended.

Roger suggested sharing interviews with like organizations as was done last time. It was very upsetting when we had the actives endorsing the opposite candidate last time and we must make sure it doesn’t happen again. We need always to endorse with NARA.

Deb mentioned NARA is a state with separate unions.

Scotty also said NARA recognized AFL/CIO endorsements. NARA also has more senior issues than the AFL/CIO. Scotty also said 85% of his people they endorsed were elected. He said, “We work together.”

Jason pointed out that we have to speak as once voice; not for Republicans or Democrats. It is whoever has AFSMCE’s back.

NARA is non-partisan.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Patty presented the treasurer’s report and that she will be moving some money into a CD. Roger made the motion to accept the treasurer’s report and Frank seconded it. The motion carried.

DIRECTOR SOUTH REPORT

Laura attended PERS on December 14, 2017 in Las Vegas and spoke from Priscilla’s statement. She also attended a Chris Guichilianni event the same day. In January she attended the RPEN meeting. She lunched with Corean and Jason and had a discussion. She was involved with the Women’s March. She was online with the PEBP meeting January 25, 2018. She spoke with railroad retirees.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE REPORT

Frank has not been receiving any phone calls. He has been working getting a new copier. The Senior Moment will be out in March.

DIRECTOR NORTH

Steve said that membership has been steady at 1,229 members. We have only been missing members due to death, but hope to have new members soon. Steve has been working on the Website. There is not much going on right now until the political season begins. The minutes are on line and applications to join. We need pictures and topics of interest to put on the Website. Any more ideas?

LOBBYIST REPORT

Priscilla mentioned the Website having a link to PERS and PEBP. She and Steve are learning more about the Website. Once it is on, it is on live. She has four areas she wanted to talk about . The website is people-driven. The first thing people want to see is the Chapter President. We don’t want to clutter up the Website. Even if we have nothing in our home page, national has current information always; such as $266 billion cuts to Medicare, $72 billion cuts to Social Security, one billion cuts to Medicaid. We don’t want to change the Website every 2 minutes, but we don’t want it to be stale. Do we have a problem if we were to link to PEBP’s newsletter? Charlie told her and Steve to take care of it. PEBP did a survey of 9,600 retirees and active employees on how they wanted to receive information. Of those interviewed 43% were retirees and 57% were active employees. Response was good because 324 e-mails responded, which is bias to start. Number one response results were for e-mails and number two responses were for Website and printed material. The most important for Priscilla is the newsletter first; then the Website. Our Communication challenge should be the newsletter, Website, and e-mail service action network. We are working on a postal non-profit permit. Priscilla will be calling the IRS to see what we need to qualify for non-profit mail.

COREAN BAKER REPORT

Corean Baker is President of the sub-chapter of AFSCME retirees. They are all retired from different states but still want to be active with AFSCME. Not all states have an AFSCME retiree chapter and she only found out by word of mouth that there was one in Las Vegas. They have over 700 members. They meet once a month. They meet at the letter-carriers office. They don’ have an office of their own. They cannot put on events. They could have someone to help them. They would like to have a permanent home somewhere. They keep retirees informed about what is happening on the National level. Dina Titus is 100% for them. Their membership is very active. They volunteer at the rescue mission and volunteer at schools and campaigning. They need AFSCME to inform them when people retire and move to Las Vegas. They get a rebate, but for only $6,000.00 a year. They have a Face Book under AFSCME-Las VEGAS SUB153. There are only 2 other sub chapters in the country; one in North Carolina and one in Florida. California and New York are where most of their members come from. They would like to get t-shirts with their information and local 153 on them.

Steve mentioned that we cannot post on face book because someone who is now deceased did it and we can’t post on FB until we figure out how to get back on it.

Steve suggested putting the sub chapter on our Website and putting on our calendar anything they want of coming events and meeting times. He just needs Corean to send him the events so he can put it on the calendar.

GAIL DIETRICH REPORT

NARA Women of Washoe had a seminar with Kate Marshal and Elias Parker on the Republican recap program. The event was well received as 25 people attended. She will send slides to Frank for the Senior Moment.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion ensued on the printer. Frank reported on the printer/copier machine with Charlie. Cannon did not get back to Charlie. Las Vegas Office Machine will give us the state rate. We discussed the options of buying or leasing. Las Vegas Office Machine will give toner. Considering issuing the Senior Moment 6 times a year at $500 each time, we save money plus we would not have to rely on anyone else; besides NARA could also make use of it. To make it fit in the office we could move the TV and mount the TV on the wall.

We discussed making use of the small room that is vacant around the corner; we need to negotiate with the owner. This office was the best deal we could find.

It was determined that there would be no problem with the Central Labor Council as long as our literature is printed in house. Charlie said it would be a 60-month lease.

 Roger made the motion that we lease the printer to enable us to print the Senior Moment and any other applications as necessary in house. Sandy seconded the motion and it carried,

Further discussion ensued about checking with the landlord for more space in back of the building. We may need another meeting to discuss this issue.

Charlie made the motion to dismiss the business portion of the meeting to allow Jason to speak his presentation and Patty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

JASON HAENEL PRESENTATION

Jason has been with AFSCME for 23 years. He is now with New York Political Department with AFSCME. He says it is important what is happening in Nevada. Including Nevada, 6 states are critical; they are Florida, Minnesota, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio. But Nevada is on the offensive. We are concerned about achieving a majority in the Assembly and the Senate and the Governor. Everything is at stake right now including health care issues. Importance is growing the union and achieving a governor for working families. The federal races are important as is what is going on in Washington.

We need more friendly folks in office and in order to do that all the departments within the union need to be together in the same plan by putting all resources available at our disposal. The campaign plan is the AFACME plan. Our initial message is a new day for Nevada workers. To increase our visibility we need to increase membership using every tool available. Use social media, Face Book, flyers, pictures of members, etc.

To accomplish this we need current members more involved. We need one on one conversations with members from mid June to November 6th. The goal is to have 2,700 new union members. There will be one mailing towards this goal to increase membership 150%. To do this we need to identify and train members in order to grow and exist. We need to self-sustain.

We need a North and South organizing front that includes the whole of Nevada.

Carlos will be the organizer for the retirees. There will be more organizers from Washington on a temporary basis to analyze the challenges.

We need two members from both retiree chapters for 20 hours a week to talk to folks. It is most important for members to talk to other members. The biggest part is true teamwork. That is how we construct things in both north and south. That is our structure.

Jason goes on to talk about the emotional response when you hear the name AFSCME. It is not the union, it is OUR UNION! And it’s about leadership. What is our story. He says values are a brand. Like other organizations he pointed out. We are a vibrant union who proclaim better lives for all members.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

The next general meeting will be Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Steve made the motion to adjourn and Roger seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudgens, Secretary