AFSCME RETIREE CHAPTER 4041

June 5, 2017

Minutes

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Charlie Muller called the meeting to order at 10:23 a.m. with the pledge to the flag. Others present were Vice President Roger Bremner, Treasurer Patty Machal, Secretary Sandra Hudgens, Joan Papaianni representing Frank Director-at-large, Director North Steve Suwe, Director South Laura Leavitt, Trustee Fred Suwe, members Tom Young and H. G. Hugo Harig.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Charlie and Mike Hoffman went to Saturday’s rally where the media talked to the Legislators. There were 50 to 60 people present. He said things were looking up at that point. There were different groups represented. Governor has vetoed all partisan bills. RPEN’s privacy bill was vetoed. There was a discussion on the voucher issue.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Steve made the motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting and Patty seconded it. The motion carried.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

There was no input to a list of questions to PEBP. The budget was closed. There will be more questions during the interim. Roger commented how much the Legislature has changed.

Roger said the Carson City Democratic Central Committee is putting on a 4th of July celebration at the front office with a dessert contest and Jambalaya.

TREASURER’S REPORT

There is a 01.25% interest from savings. Laura and Patty will decide what if anything should be done with savings. Patty has been getting lists of members from Harford, Peoples, Davis Vision and International. She will be comparing the lists with PERS. Steve made the motion to accept the treasurer’s report and Roger seconded the motion. The motion carried.

DIRECTOR NORTH’S REPORT

Steve attended an earlier rally with a press conference on how the legislators were going to replace benefits. There were 50 to 60 people there. The Governor will be giving state workers 2% instead of what was proposed at the press conference.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Discussion ensued regarding the Nevada State Fair, previously the Carson City Fair.

We discussed giving money to NARA since they do not have the dues that we have. We are all free members in NARA. Last year we gave $2,500. This year Roger motioned to give $1,500 and Steve seconded the motion. The motion carried. It was pointed out that we would be donating money for an ad in their newsletter at their convention.

International mentioned that we are the highest paying members of People in the nation.

We still need to give candidates money directly so they know from where the money is coming.

Fred read from past minutes the reason we decided to raise the dues. It was to “fight the system”. According to the answers the members gave from the questionnaires we sent, they were not happy and 85% agreed to increase the dues. We decided we could do whatever it takes.

Other ideas were to pay walkers who favor our candidate. We could go forward with a PAC. Do we need a legal opinion? Discussion resumed on other means of raising money. International does not want us to form a PAC, but they do not care about our local candidates.

DIRECTOR SOUTH’S REPORT

Laura attended the last PEBP meeting, a collective bargaining meeting and a Police Service Project. We should get our name out there in order to get new members. Being active on a project in the community is one way to bring it to public attention. Ideas on how to go forward would be to check with Senior Centers or ask other organizations. Include Las Vegas with projects. Make sure pictures get into the newspapers.

LOBBYIST’S REPORT

Priscilla mentioned how so much of went on during this legislature was behind closed doors. She said ESA was dead. The Governor will not call a special session.

Priscilla discussed the last minute success we have had on the last day, sine die.

Governor vetoed RPEN’s SB384 in spite of a promise to sign. Priscilla went over the background and action on a number of bills including appropriations and the orphan bill. The Governor signed SB502 and we maintain 2 members on the board of PEBP.

In order to plan ahead for the next session, we should survey other states. We should also write our own bills. Priscilla was happy we won this session.

Roger and Patty are to attend the Retiree meeting in Washington, D.C.

 ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE

Steve made the motion to adjourn at 12:27 p.m. and Roger seconded the motion carried. The next membership meeting will be September 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudgens, Secretary