AFSCME RETIREE CHAPTER 4041

BOARD MEETING

CARSON CITY AND LAS VEGAS

MAY 28, 2019

 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

President Charlie Muller called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. with the pledge to the flag. Also present were Vice President Roger Bremner, Northern Director Steve Suwe, Director-at-Large Joanie Papaianni, Southern Director Laura Leavitt, Treasurer Patty Machal, Secretary Sandra Hudgens, Trustee Fred Suwe, Lobbyist Priscilla Maloney, Members Tommy Hughes and Carol Shelton and guest NARA’s Gail Dietrich.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Survey.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no minutes.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT REPORT

Charlie reported on the trip to Las Vegas with Steve and Roger to meet with Laura, Deb Burko and the sub chapter to share ideas.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

Roger stressed how important 2020 are going to be on both national and local elections and we need to get involved early. We need legislation for Medicare retirees. He complained how Damon Haycock will not give us the figures we need.

PEBP should be reimbursing retirees for some or all of Medicare payments. Session will be over in 7 days and very little has been accomplished,

TREASURER REPORT

 Patty explained about the post retirement increase (PRI) and retroactive payment from PERS. There are only two people working on the adjustment and it will take time. Because of a PERS error, those people who should pay will be exempt from paying.

DIRECTOR SOUTH REPORT

Laura recently returned from vacation and reported on meeting with Charlie, Roger and Steve. She also signed up a new member.

DIRECTOR NORTH REPORT

Steve announced that everything that he ordered has been received. The baseball tickets for AFSCME night in August have been received. Discussion ensued regarding Labor Day and Nevada Day float entries. Cards were passed out showing the car used in the last Nevada Day Parade. Steve though two scooters could be used allowing two people to hold the banner without having to walk. He also suggested renting scooters so more people could be involved. We need to start early and enter on our own in order to get a lower number.

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE REPORT

Joanie mentioned the board renting a van to drive to Las Vegas for a meeting like we used to do.

LOBBYIST REPORT

Priscilla had 6 items that she wanted to bring up. The first was the PEBP appropriations bill, Senate Bill 550. That bill has passed out of Committee. There is still concern about the percentage of actual premium costs that the employer pays for Medicare and non-Medicare retirees. It is unclear if the Medicare retirees get their actual costs covered to the same extent that non-Medicare retirees’ costs (State pays 64% of their premiums) get picked up by the employer. We will be discussing a bill draft for next session to address this.

SB 224-RPEN’s “PERS Privacy” bill has been amended at the request of the Governor and now will consider name and pension amount as non-confidential information. Priscilla went on to explain that the state of Oregon had just settled a similar lawsuit as to their retirees’ information being made public-and that there have been similar lawsuits across the country.

There was a problem recently when International asked us to eblast out an announcement for a press conference for an event that had to be rescheduled due to Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson’s untimely death. Going forward we will make it clear to the IU that they only need send us specific copy and that is the language we will publish. Steve also mentioned that the IU is able also to see what we are putting on our Facebook and Website.

The actives’ collective bargaining bill, SB 135 is waiting for an Amendment coming from the Governor’s office. The Governor has already signed 10 bills at this point in the session that we have been monitoring.

Another bill draft possibility for next session is that the Medicare exchange be required to have offices in the North, South and rural counties.

GUEST REPORT

Gail reported that Women of Washoe (WOW) had a table at the senior event in Reno. There were 500 WOW members but they have a hard time getting them to show up. Gail said there was a NARA day at the Legislature.

OTHER BUSINESS

Fred went over the questionnaire that was passed out to be sent to our members in order to better understand the issues important for our lobbyist’s efforts.

DISCUSSION OF 2020 ELECTION

Roger reiterated the importance of early preparation and to which elections to which we want to belong. Do we want to interview candidates?

DISCUSSION ON HOW TO WORK WITH OTHER GROUPS

Short discussion on working with other groups including NARA and the subchapter in Las Vegas and how we can be involved.

FURTHER BUSINESS

A sample of a plaque honoring Frank Papaianni was passed out. Roger made the motion to allow Steve to amend the verbiage and have it made and Patty seconded it. The motion carried.

We still have a problem with bulk mail. Roger agreed to handle it.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

The next board meeting will be June 13, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Sandra made the motion to adjourn at 12;05 p.m. and Joan seconded it. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Hudgens