



## Northwest Suburban Unit 90 Minutes

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**Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 10:00 am - at Arlington Heights Senior Center**

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Meeting called to order by Jane McCauley at 10:02

**Attendance:** Janice Calvey, Rich Chierico, Frank Compton, Karl Gabbey, Bob Lyons, Jane McCauley, Diane Pfister, Reinhard Taylor and Carolyn White

1. **Minutes:** October 6, 2021 minutes were approved.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** No vote to accept since Treasurer Linda Wallin was absent.
3. **President's Report:** (Jane McCauley) There was a review of the virtual convention with compliments for how efficiently it ran. The attendees who spoke to several of the proposed constitutional amendments made the need for a return to in-person conventions evident to facilitate idea exchange.  
It was decided that we don't need a Dec.board meeting. According to the Constitution, new officers should be approved at the December luncheon. Since we aren't having the luncheon, a motion to extend the terms of the current officers through January was approved.  
There was discussion of changing the Constitution so that the Vice President would automatically become the next President; a vote will be taken at the January meeting. Bob Lyons and Karl Gabbey volunteered to serve on a nominating committee.
4. **Upcoming events** - None scheduled
5. **Committee Reports**
6. **Membership** (Janette Wanner) There has been a small increase in the number of State members from the area. In response to the question of six guest members, the only benefit they receive is an email copy of the newsletter so there is no cost to the unit.
7. **Foundation** (Diane Pfister). The unit made a contribution to the Foundation in memory of Janice Kayson. We received a thank you note from the family of Paul Mueller for an earlier contribution.
8. **Member Benefits** (Janice Calvey). AMBA is offering a new Universal Life Insurance Plan.

9. **Communication/WebSite** (Reinhard Taylor). The website has been updated. Email newsletters will go out today. At the State Convention, the proposed amendment to eliminate the State Communications Committee was approved.
10. **Volunteer Services** (Carolyn White) Nothing new.
11. **Legislative** (Karl Gabbey). The fall veto session has just ended. Legislation to protect mail-in voting was approved. With judicial elections next year, Karl asked the State IRTA if they would be taking any position on candidates. To date, they had not considered that. Karl suggested that IRTA might benefit from some collaboration with AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees) since we have many interests in common. Of concern is a move by some wealthy Illinoisans to remove health insurance from pensions. AFSCME partnered with IRTA in the 2015 case to preserve pension benefits.
12. **TRS** (Bob Lyons) As a result of fewer hospitalizations and doctors office visits during the pandemic, CMS reduced contributions from retirees. The changes that were initially made to the contributions of active teachers, and consequently the state contribution, were subsequently reversed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02. **Next Meeting January 3, 2022.**

**Meeting Schedule for 2022:** First Wednesday of each month (except July and December). Newsletters in March, May, August and November.

Carolyn White, acting secretary