

**NORTHWEST SUBURBAN UNIT 90-IRTA
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING**

OCTOBER 4, 2006

Submitted by Frank Compton

Attendance: Frank Compton, Rich Chierico, Doris Haack, Liz White, Len Kortekass, Bob Ferguson, Joan Howdle, Marybelle Macro, Jesse Macro, Jeanne Arcus, Bob Lyons, Mary Lou Tansey, Roger Steingraber. Guests: Denise Moree, Ron Gummerson, Dave Buchheit, Reinhard Taylor, Larry Schroeder

- 1) Treasurer's Report (Len Kortekass) We still owe \$450.00 for postage for the mailing of 8/3/06. Rich Chierico make a motion, seconded by Liz White and passed, to send the \$ 648.00 we have in REPAC to the State for use. From now on Advocacy money could be used for attending local political events.
- 2) President's Report (Doris Haack) First, we are fortunate to have Reinhard Taylor with us who will use his skill and knowledge to set up a Unit 90 Web site. He needs information to put on this site such as a list of officers, minutes, meeting dates, newsletter, membership applications, and key issues facing us. \$25.00 will be given to the Foundation in memory of Susan E. Coit. The deadline for the Newsletter is Friday, October 20. The IRTA Legislative Responses are still coming in and should all be in by October 14 so that we can get them out in a special mailing. Bob Lyons, Jesse Macro, Reinhard Taylor, and Doris are on the committee to work out the details of all this. We still need to follow up on contacts made at the Leadership Luncheon.
- 3) TRS Meetings (Doris Haack) All the meetings begin at 4:30 pm. The materials to be distributed include IRTA tri-fold with the local membership form, IRTA achievements, and Member benefits. Liz White and Joan Howdle had more than 80 people attend the TRS meeting at Barrington High School on Wednesday, September 20 and were successful in handing out materials. They suggest name tags for those at future meetings. Frank Compton, Dave Buchheit, and Roger Steingraber will handle the Tuesday, October 17 meeting at Forest View Theater in Arlington Heights. Bill McCauley, Bob Ferguson, and Doris Haack will hand out materials on Thursday, October 26 in Room 200 at Schaumburg High School.
- 4) Legislative Luncheon (Joan Howdle) This event was a great success with a turnout of over 116 people. Thanks to Joan for her fine work as well as Liz White and Marybelle Macro. We especially appreciate the fine service of the staff at Inverness Golf Club. Many of the candidates attended, and the format worked with the event ending by 2:00pm. Joan suggested having more open tables. Bill McCauley's e-mails were very effective.

5) Holiday Luncheon (Lee Westrom) This event will take place on Wednesday, December 6, 2006 at the Wellington at a cost of \$18.00 per person. The menu will offer a choice of petite filet, broiled salmon or chicken ala Wellington as a main course with soup, salad, vegetable, potato, beverage, and dessert. The entertainment will be provided by the Suzuki violinists from Dooley Elementary School at a cost of \$150.00. The program will involve Bob Lyons with information on TRS issues. Roger will run his raffle, and Marybelle Macro do the table programs.

6) Committee Reports-Membership (Bobby Reinhardt) We now have 890 members. Member Benefits (Mary Lou Tansey) We should encourage Boards to publicize AMBA with its benefits involving nursing home care and home health care etc. Grand Circle Travel does not offer discounts just good prices. Hospitality (Marybelle Macro) On April 24, 2007 we will have some kind of trip. There will be the June Luncheon and the Day at The Races. Information Services (Rich Chierico) Rich handed out the minutes of the Information Services Committee for August 30, 2006. Also he suggested that Charlie Chrisman speak at a luncheon of recently retired teachers in local areas. Briefly some of the more salient points in the minutes involve Charlie's point that increased membership numbers are the key to ongoing pension and healthcare issues. Another item was that Irene Jinks testified in front of the Congressional Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations at the State Capitol on the topic of retirement security for State and local government employees. A press release was provided and hopefully local newspapers would have articles on this topic. Finally, Jim Bachman explained that the Law Firm of Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins rendered an opinion on GPO and WEP that Social Security is not a property right. Thus, there is no basis for a lawsuit which means that the only way to make a change is through Congress in the form of a modification rather than a repeal.

Legislation (Bob Lyons) In September and early this month Bob attended 8 political lunches of one sort or another. Most candidates are telling us what we want to hear. In the next session of the legislature, however, there will be some attempt to fund the pensions with some method outside of a bond issue. Another approach would involve leasing the lottery or a toll way or a new casino license. These are doubtful, but few, if any, would suggest raising taxes. Most legislators look to the original plan, but this involves increasing amounts to be paid out which would take all the new income. The average person on the street does not have much compassion for us when you realize what most retirement incomes are. We must be aware that a Constitutional Convention could change the whole situation. One last point which might affect our situation is that Stuart Levine will be in court on October 27.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 1, 2006

**NOTE: THERE WILL BE A STUFFING FOR THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER.
ENVELOPES WILL BE USED SO AS TO INCLUDE THE NEW MEMBERSHIP CARDS.**