

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

April 2, 2008

Submitted by Frank Compton

Present: Liz White, Frank Compton, Bob Lyons, Len Kortekaas, Reinhard Taylor, Bob Ferguson, Jeanne Arcus, Doris Haack, Roger Steingraber, Bobby Reinhardt, Rich Chierico, Jesse Macro.

Guests: Denise Florczak, Rich Rogowski, Dave Buchheit, Carolyn White

1) Treasurer's Report (Bob Ferguson)

2) President's Report (Len Kortekaas)

Marybelle is hanging in there with the cancer treatments she is receiving. We wish her the very best and include her in our prayers.

3) Unit 90 Schedule for 2008 (Len Kortekaas)

First we have the Spring Tour by Dr. Cutler on Thursday, April 22, 2008 which covers Ethnic Chicago , Tour #1, with Jeanne Arcus and Liz White as coordinators. We are all set. Some who wanted to be on this tour would like a repeat. Liz suggested that in the future we allow only one guest per member. Next is the Area 2 Spring Conference which will take place on Monday, April 28 at D'Andrea Banquets at the junction of Rt 14 and 31 in Crystal Lake. Len will be the coordinator while Bob Ferguson will handle the payment process. The Summer Luncheon is next and will occur on Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at the Inverness Golf Club with the social hour at 11:00 am followed by lunch at noon. The setup will be the same as last year with valet parking. Liz White will get the flyer out and serve with Marybelle Macro as a coordinator. The cost will be \$24.00 per person. The Day at the Races comes next on September 18, 2008 at Arlington Park with Rich Chierico in charge. He asked if we should mention the specifics of the donation. It was felt by the Board that it would be best to give the money to REPAC so the State would handle the money. The next Newsletter will cover this. On September 3 , 2008 the Newbee Breakfast will take place at 9:00 am with the Board meeting to follow. The coordinators are Liz and Carolyn White and Marybelle Macro who will plan the details. Next is the Legislative Luncheon which will be on Thursday, October 2, 2008 at the Inverness Golf Club coordinated by Liz and Carolyn White and Marybelle Macro. Bob Lyons will take care of the invitations. The last event of the year will be the Holiday Luncheon on December 3, 2008 at Meridan Banquets to whom we have made a \$500.00 deposit. Marbelle Marcro and Liz will be the coordinators.

4) IRTA Region 3 Reports (Doris Haack, Jesse Macro, and Reinhard Taylor)

Jesse pointed out on the issue of endorsements that candidates had to be incumbents with a clear voting record and must answer specific questions about their voting records. Doris mentioned the general picture of Area 2 with the aid of an IRTA map. There are 5 officers and 16 regional directors with a total of 32 on the Board. While there is density north of I-80, South of I-80 is very rural. Area 2 covers regions 2,3, and 5. Doris goes twice a year to Board meetings and points out that the Executive Committee makes most of the major decisions. Doris

Haack asked about needing a password to find out the benefits of IRTA. Rich Chierico made a motion, seconded by Liz White, that information about IRTA benefits should be available on the IRTA website without a password. This motion passed.

5) VoterVoice comments (Len Kortekaas)

VoterVoice information is on the IRTA website. There is a request to support Senate Bill 2296 which would place 13 million dollars on an annual basis to the State Comptroller for deposit into the Teacher Health Insurance Security Fund. There is a link to support this bill which Len encourages us to do.

6) E-mailing Newsletter (Bill McCauley)

Reinhard pointed out that he and Bill McCauley are working on this. He also feels we need to get this information into the Newsletter. Now we have 200 people who want the e-mail version of the Newsletter. Again, he and Bill are trying to clean up the data base. Bill needs a list before the next meeting.

7) Membership Drive (Bobby Reinhardt)

Reinhard pointed out that some people belong to 2 units. He is working on the data base to refine it and eliminate those who have died etc. We are also working on various school districts to get lists of the names of people retiring. Some districts are secretive. One way might be to access the minutes of the School Board meetings of given districts.

8) Committee Reports

Membership (Bobby Reinhardt)

83 need to renew while we have 865 valid members. Out of last year's retirees we have 68 who joined, 40% of the whole group.

Foundation (Doris Haack)

We give out \$15,000 in grant money.

Information Services (Rich Chierico)

The State Committee wanted information from units about their communications between local units and the State. This is vital to keep IRTA strong. Steve Polep wanted to put out a new brochure to explain benefits. Also he plans to have a booth at the next convention to publicize benefits. Reinhard Taylor pointed out the advantages of joining the State with a 2-dollar per month deduction, which is a great saving.

Volunteer Services (Carolyn White)

Dave Buchheit asked about a list of 214 retirees to encourage them to join Unit 90. In addition he emphasized the need for volunteers.

Legislative (Bob Lyons)

Bob has an invitation to a fundraiser for John Millner which he cannot attend. As for pension funding, Bob feels there is not much interest in Pension Obligation Bonds. The Chicago Public School System is suing the State of Illinois about their pension benefits to get more money for their pension. Next week the TRS Board will meet for 3 days in Oakbrook. In the Rezko trial Stuart Levine made negative comments about Jon Bauman. Some TRS Board members may be witnesses and therefore cannot speak about the trial. Bob feels that nothing will be done by IRTA until this trial is over. The TRS did not make any bad investments because of Levine. When Levine knew what the TRS Board was going to do, he tried to make deals to get kickbacks. In light of a person like Levine being on the TRS Board, Rich Chierico suggested that we should have a special assessment to fund a lawyer to investigate any appointments to the Board by the Governor. Finally, Rich raised the point about CIGNA not telling specifics of health costs while they are charged to an individual.

9) Miscellaneous:

Copies of the Unit 90 Constitution were handed out. This document will be discussed at our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 7, 2008 (with a mailing)