

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

April 1, 2009

SUBMITTED BY FRANK COMPTON

Present: Frank Compton, Liz White, Bobby Reinhardt, Bob Lyons, Rich Chierico, Doris Haack, Jesse Macro, Bob Ferguson, Reinhard Taylor, Bill McCauley, Carolyn White, Jeanne Arcus.

Guests: Ron Gummerson

1) Treasurer's Report (Bob Ferguson)

2) President's Report (Len Kortekaas)

The Area II Conference went extremely well. Doris Haack felt it was one of the best.

3) Unit 90 Schedule for 2009 (Len Kortekaas)

First comes the Spring Tour on Tuesday, April 14th and Thursday and April 23rd which involves a tour of Historic Chicago led by Dr. Cutler. Liz White thanked Bill McCauley for suggesting two dates which are almost full at this point. Liz White and Len Kortekaas are in charge.

Next is the Summer Luncheon on Wednesday, June 17th at the Inverness Golf Club with the White's as coordinators. The date is confirmed with a menu to be organized. Liz suggested that we consider a subsidy for those who may be hurting financially.

Wednesday, September 9th will be the date of the Newbee Breakfast and the IRTA monthly meeting at the Arlington Heights Senior Center. Len and the Whites are in charge. Liz suggested that we contact some outfit to make a large banner with our title on it. The cost might be around \$100.00. She and Reinhard Taylor will check on this project. One room at the Senior Center will be reserved for the Breakfast while the Unit 90 Meeting will be in the usual room.

The Day at The Races is the next event which will occur on Thursday, September 17th at the Arlington Park Race Track. Rich Chierico has gone to a great effort to organize and run this event in such a way to keep the cost down by having a cash bar. The cost per person will be \$42.22 with the flier all set.

The next possible event is a Golf Outing in the fall. The White's and Bob Ferguson will coordinate this event. As yet, we have few responses. Liz White suggested giving another try for feedback by another announcement in the May Newsletter.

Monday, October 19th and Tuesday, October 20th will be the dates of the 2009 IRTA Convention at the Hilton Hotel in Springfield. Len Kortekaas will be in charge. We need a nomination for the Unit 90 Honoree at the Convention. Carpooling would be a good idea for those who will attend.

The final event of the year is the Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 3rd at Meridian. The Wellington was already booked. The price per person should be about the same as last year. The White's will be in charge.

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

Doris will attend the State Meeting on April 15th. Jesse was at the last Information Services Meeting where they were working on computer services. Also there were concerns about increasing membership.

#### **5) Constitution Revision**

The Board made several changes in the Constitution through a series of motions. Reinhard Taylor will update these changes in the document and e-mail the revised version as well as make hard copies.

#### **6) Membership Drive (Bill McCauley)**

124 people will retire this year from this area. We still need information from District 25 while a few retirees will come from District 59.

#### **7) Committee Reports**

##### **Membership (Bobby Reinhardt)**

At present we have 948 paid up members. A total of 135 have not renewed. The numbers of those who have not renewed are higher for those who were e-mailed for some reason. Reinhard Taylor suggested giving individuals a choice to be left alone. However, Ron Gummerson felt we should inform people that this is really their last chance to join. Communication to all who have not renewed will go out in May. Bobby also commented that at the Area II Conference Charlie Chrisman stated that he will be going around our area to speak at local schools and hand out a new brochure which we need to get copies of. Bobby will take care of ordering these brochures.

##### **Information Services (Rich Chierico)**

James Benton will hold meetings twice a year. There was concern at the latest meeting about pensions and Trip health coverage and cost. Still another concern is the possible consolidation of the State pension funds. GPO and WEP are not priorities in Congress at this point. The figures of retired people who do not belong to IRTA are not totally accurate.

##### **Legislative (Jesse Macro and Bob Lyons)**

Jesse received notice about a meeting in Jacksonville on the GPO and WEP issue. The national average teacher's pension is \$ 20,000.00 per year which is enlightening. The Illinois Retirement Security Group met with a policy advisor to Governor Quinn. It was felt that a meeting should take place before the TRIP booklet is published. The TRS people are the only ones paying a 5% increase in TRIP fees. Also there is a bill to reappoint the Governor's people on the retirement boards prior to Quinn becoming Governor. This means experienced individuals would have to leave because of this legislation which is still pending. Bob Lyons pointed out that Quinn received a great deal of support when he presented his budget. This has dramatically changed. Quinn wanted to change much about teachers who will be hired, but this was misunderstood. Current teachers were confused. All the teachers groups were upset. In addition there is a plan to combine all the retirement funds and a possible increase in current

teachers' contribution with no increase in benefits. This will probably not go through. Quinn wants to reduce pension funding the next fiscal year by two thirds and will not fund the pensions in the last quarter of this fiscal year. Finally, this year the difference between contributions and payouts is 1.4 billion. It will get worse. The bottom line is that the State has an insurmountable problem. There are many efforts to deal with this. Bill McCauley pointed out that there might be an attempt to renegotiate our basic contract.

#### **8) Miscellaneous**

The Unit Honoree should be chosen prior to August 1st with a brief summary of reasons and a picture. We should work on this.

#### **NEXT MEETING: MAY 6, 2009**

All articles for the Newsletter must be handed in by April 25th for the May mailing