

**NORTHWEST SUBURBAN UNIT90-IRTA  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

January 6, 2010

SUBMITTED BY FRANK COMPTON

**Present:** Frank Compton, Reinhard Taylor, Bob Lyons, Bobby Reinhardt, Bill McCauley, Len Kortekaas, Bob Ferguson, Doris Haack, Rich Chierico, Jesse Macro, Mary Lou Tansey, Carolyn White

**Guests:** Denise Florzcak and Marti Swanson

**1) Treasurer's Report ( Bob Ferguson)**

In his report Bob went over the cash flow for the last 12 months.

**2) President's Report ( Len Kortekaas)**

Len passed out a list of the school districts in our area with contacts in each district to give us the names of this year's retirees. He also passed around mailing and e-mailing lists. Next the letter endorsing Suzie Bassi was handed out. We really need to support her in her difficult primary contest. Bob Lyons will revise the letter and have it mailed out first class. Len then welcomed Marti Swanson who came all the way from McHenry to speak to us. We are most grateful for her concern and willingness to share her experience and insight. First she spoke about the McHenry Unit and their meetings 9 months a year. These are lunch meetings with excellent numbers in attendance. She feels the great participation is based on a desire to socialize and to get information. Rich Chierico reacted to Marti's comments by saying that our area is a bit different being a mixture of Chicago suburbs. Also he felt that many of our members are not involved because they feel secure with their monthly pension check. Doris Haack also reacted by suggesting that we should look into changes in our programs. Marti's final comment about her unit is that members are contacted by phone or e-mail. Second, Marti commented on the IRTA executives after Rich Chierico pointed out that these individuals who are paid should be more active at our conventions and give us reports about what is going on. In addition at the last 2 conventions, there were not stated legislative goals. Rich continued that we should have more lobbying. Marti suggested that we have Jim Bachman speak at one of our meetings. In addition there is a plan to contact our representatives in a group in Springfield on a given day. If there was no vital legislation, this idea would not be effective. There will be a revision of the endorsement process which is sorely needed. Another problem is our election cycle is off from the State cycle. This is major. One reason we do not have the same insurance benefits as other State retirees is because of being off the State election cycle.

**3) Holiday Luncheon Review**

This was successful, but Bob Lyons feels we need to emphasize entertainment. Rich Chierico stated that it is equally important to publicize the entertainment ahead of time. We may try to contact a high school group.

#### **4) Unit 90 Schedule for 2010 ( Len Kortekaas)**

We will contact Bill Hinchliff about a possible trip to Milwaukee in late March or some time in April or May. Doing the same tour twice would be good. The next event is the Area 2 Conference which will be at Randal Oaks on April 5.. The Summer Luncheon details are not yet decided. With the Day at The Races Rich Chierico feels we could go in September under a different organizational approach. Newbee Breakfast will be organized later as will the Holiday Luncheon.

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

Irene Jinks is the new representative for Region 3. Jesse will try to stay on the Legislative Committee. As yet no one has contacted Reinhard about his position on the Information Services Committee.

#### **6) Membership Drive**

This was covered under the President's Report.

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

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

71 signed up for 5 years. Many of those who signed up wanted to be on the e-mail list for the Newsletter. We have about 800 paid up members so far.

##### **Foundation/Scholarship ( Doris Haack)**

Scholarships of \$1500.00 are being offered to those students who are majoring in education. The deadline is March 7. 17 retired teachers are being helped by the Foundation. All information in this regard can be found on the web site.

##### **Member Benefits ( Mary Lou Tansey)**

The contracting attorneys issue was tabled. Contact the web site for the complete listing of all benefits.

##### **Legislative ( Bob Lyons)**

The State is finally selling the short- term bonds. Part of the 3.4 billion will be used to pay into the School Fund. There is no tax break. Bob is on the committee to interview the new executive director. Jim Bachman asked Bob if he would go to Florida to speak to retirees in 3 cities in February. Bob agreed to do this. We should be aware the CIGNA should not consider us as State employees and deny us insurance payments.

#### **8) Miscellaneous:**

Meeting Schedule for 2010: Tues 2/9, Tues 3/9, Wed 4/7, Wed 5/5, Wed 6/2, Wed 8/4, Wed 9/8 , Wed 10/6, Wed 11/3

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2010**