

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN UNIT90-IRTA
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

September 7, 2011

SUBMITTED BY FRANK COMPTON

Present: Frank Compton, Doris Haack, Bill McCauley, Len Kortekaas, Bob Lyons, Reinhard Taylor, Liz White, Carolyn White, Jesse Macro, Bob Ferguson

Guests: Rich O' Brien , Bob Kaplan, Sandy Ratter, Cindy Raszay, David Martin, Bob Given, Dave Buchheit

1) Treasurer's Report (Bob Ferguson)

There is no money in IRTAPAC because we turned that money in.

2) President's Report (Len Kortekaas)

We have a full slate of officers for next year thanks to Rich O' Brien who will serve as Secretary.

3) Unit 90 Schedule for 2011 (Len Kortekaas)

First, we have The Day at the Races on Thursday, September 15th at the Arlington Park Race Track. There are 22 people signed up. Rich Chierico is still at home with health problems. Doris Haack will help with running the outing. All of us wish the best for Rich.

Our next events are the TRS Fall Meetings. The first one is at Barrington High School Guidance Resource Center on September 29th with Rich O'Brien, Liz White and Bob Given coordinating. Next will be the meeting at Forest View Educational Center D100 and D101 on October 12th coordinated by Frank Compton and Carolyn White. October 27th will see the final meeting at Schaumburg High School Room 200 with Len Kortekaas and Bob Kaplan in charge. We will need to request a table which Carolyn will do. All people helping should be at their location by 4:00 pm.

Our 2011 IRTA Convention comes next at the Springfield Hilton (217-789-1530) on October 17-18 with Len Kortekaas as coordinator. Our unit sent \$100.00 to ICARE who will create a basket in our name at the Convention. People who contributed to attend the IRTAPAC luncheon should have no problem. Reinhard Taylor will run one session on creating a web site and one on gaining access to the State Web Site.

Next will be the trip to the Paramount Theater on November 16, 2011 in Aurora to view "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." So far four people have signed up. A flyer can be e-mailed out to everyone this month in addition to a notice in the November Newsletter. The performance will start at 1:30 pm. Lunch is not included.

Our last event is the Holiday Luncheon on Tuesday, December 6 at the Inverness Golf Club. We have settled on a correct date. The first choice for entertainment is the Barrington High School Madrigal Group. Other possibilities include a barbershop quartet and the Suzuki group.

4) Committee Reports-

Membership (Reinhard Taylor)

979 are currently members. 2,111 people are on the data base. Reinhard wants to resolve this difference. We would like to add all those who are State members to our membership. The concept of unified membership is a possibility.

Foundation/Scholarship (Doris Haack)

Both Doris and Jesse Macro will help with the raffle at the State Convention.

Web Site (Reinhard Taylor)

Our Web Site is as follows: <http://www.irta-unit90.org> on which Reinhard has placed pictures and other valuable information.

As far as the Directory goes, Len Kortekaas will state in the next Newsletter that the updated Directory will be sent out only by e-mail.

Communications (Bill McCauley)

We have 792 members who receive e-mails. 534 receive the Newsletter by e-mail. We should overcome the difference in these numbers. If we have problems with regular mail, we need some kind of solution.

Volunteer Services (Carolyn White)

The adult learners program, Read to Learn, is operating in the Schaumburg Library. Carolyn will have training dates for new volunteers.

Legislative (Jesse Macro and Bob Lyons)

The State Committee Jesse serves on did not meet in August. The Chicago Teachers Union is suing the Chicago Public School System for 36 million to make up losses in the Chicago Teachers Retirement Fund. Bob Lyons spoke to all of the people who attended the Newbee Breakfast after handing out a detailed August TRS Report. He pointed out that Illinois is the lowest funded state pension, but retirement checks do go out. Our pension fund is healthy even with the difficult economy. All the ideas about reform apply to current teachers. The US Constitution and the Illinois Constitution protect us. The Civic Club of Chicago is focused on current teachers and other State employees. Senate Bill 512 provides three choices: Keep the same level of benefits, but pay 13.77% compared to the 9.4% they do now; accept the reduced benefits approved last year for new employees, Tier II but their contribution rate and also that for the new employees would be reduced to 6%; choose a defined contribution plan, a 401K, that their contribution would be 6% and that would be matched by the State of Illinois. Those in Tier II will pay less into the retirement fund. Those with the 401K will contribute nothing. Thus, those in Tier I would have to pay a great deal more and might choose to go into the other

two plans. So far there was a tremendous negative response. However, a look at the contributions of the State shows a shortfall of 15 billion to our pension, which is why we have a problem. The total owed to all pensions is 30 billion. The leaders met once in mid August and suggested all go home and develop and research ideas. If teachers contributed 1% more, it would provide about 129 million which is meaningless in light of the pension shortfall of billions. With new voting districts, Bob feels that legislators will hesitate to vote for SB 512. There is widespread envy of our pensions. The Civic Club is interested in selling 401Ks and is not concerned about the middle class. Finally, Sid Mathias has a fund raiser on September 13 which all of us should go to.

Meeting Schedule for 2011: Wed 2/2, Wed 3/2, Wed 4/6, Wed 5/4, Wed 6/1, Wed 8/3, Wed 9/7, Wed 10/5, Wed 11/2

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 5, 2011