

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

June 4, 2014 10:00 am
SUBMITTED BY LIZ WHITE

Present: Sandy Ratter, Bob Lyons, Bob Kaplan, Frank Compton, Rich Chierico, Liz White, Joan Howdle, Herb Rangl, Reinhard Taylor, Linda Wagner, Carolyn White, Cindy Ruszay, Bob Ferguson, Carl Gabbey

1. Approval of Minutes (Richard O'Brien)

No Minutes were available from last meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report (Sandy Ratter)

Copies were distributed to those present. The Treasurer explained various notations. Liz moved to accept report; seconded by Carolyn. Report was unanimously accepted.

3. President's Report (Bob Kaplan)

Events:

Summer Luncheon

Date: June 10, 2014

Location: Inverness Golf Club

Price of meal is set at \$25 per person (subsidized by Unit 90)

Coordinator: Liz White

Liz reported that as of this morning, 59 had paid. She also reported that there were several phone calls from members wishing to attend, who commented that the email Reinhard sent out over the weekend was the first they'd heard about the luncheon. Possible solutions to "remind" the members of various activities were discussed.

Newbee Breakfast

Date: Wednesday September 3, 9:00 am

Location: Arlington Heights. Senior Center - Room 183A

Coordinator: Liz White

Day at Arlington Park

Date: Thursday, September 18

Location: Arlington International Racetrack

Coordinator: Rich Chierico

Rich presented current status of the project; 17 tickets have been sold and several donations have been made. He spoke of the details of growing the Defense Fund and had called all who donated or bought tickets to explain the fundraising purpose of the project. He urged the State organization to be more proactive in supporting the project. He plans to continue his efforts to spread the word regarding the fund raiser.

TRS Meetings

Date: TBA

Location: TBA

Coordinator: Bob Kaplan

Schedule has not yet been released. Bob Lyons indicated he thought it would be available in September.

2014 Legislative Breakfast

Date: ~~October 15, 2014~~

Location: Inverness Golf Club The menu is set.

Coordinator: Bob Lyons, Jesse Macro and Liz White

Date needs to be changed due to availability of Bob Lyons. Liz will check with Inverness to see if it can be rescheduled for October 8 and pass along this information to the Board.

Holiday Luncheon

Date: December 2, 2014

Location: Inverness Golf Club

Coordinator: Liz White

5. Committee Reports

1) Membership (Bobby Reinhardt)

Current Unit 90 membership is just over 900. Reinhardt is culling those who have not renewed, despite repeated efforts to reach out to them.

2) Foundation/Scholarship (Doris Haack)

Memorial donation of \$25 was made in the name of Willis Farnham.

3) Communications/Web Site/Information Services (Reinhard Taylor)

Reinhard presented statistics revealing the number of hits on the Unit 90 website over the past three years, month by month. The use of the website is growing, especially during months when it would be expected, such as elections or pension crisis. His quote is "it is quite a hit".

4) Member Benefits (Rich Chierico)

Rich handed out a copy of the Members Benefits Committee meeting of March 18, 2014 in Springfield, IL

6) Volunteer Services (Carolyn White)

No report

7) Newsletter Coordinator (Len Kortekaas)

No report, but Reinhard is determined to keep checking and find the solution to printed newsletters that are not forwarded to some members.

8) Legislative (Bob Lyons, Jesse Macro)

Bob Lyons stated that Toni Preckwinkle indicated that Cook County ranks below Puerto Rico in funding its pensions. Quinn will decide by June 9 if he will sign a measure allowing for a property tax increase in Chicago to help fund Chicago pensions. It is felt that after the November elections, the tax increase may be passed. The District judge will probably decide this summer when to hear our pension suit. One of the two newly appointed members to the TRS Board resigned after one day, leaving the balance equal between the appointed and the elected members. All TRS committees are chaired by elected Board members. All IRTA members are urged to talk with their legislators, asking what their Plan B should be, should the pension reform not be upheld. Pension funds are paying the 'juice' on the 2001 loan, used to fund the pensions. 3%--4% is an acceptable, usual, amount for contributions to the pensions. Illinois' contributions are 25%. When one looks at the difference between what money comes into the State and what money goes out, the difference is about \$1 billion.

6. Next Meeting

Remaining schedule of meetings for 2014:

Wed 8/6 (mailing), Wed 9/3 (Breakfast Meeting - Room 183A),

Wed 10/1, Wed 11/5 (mailing) No meeting in July and December.