

ALLEGHENY COUNTY RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Present: Ginny Bowman, Angela Conte, Patricia Cray, Joseph Scorpion, Guy Tumolo,  
and Roger Westman

Absent: Ken Bell

Guest: Cassie Brandon

Pat Cray called the meeting together at 10:00 am at the DoubleTree Hotel in  
Green Tree, PA.

Minutes of September 16, 2015

**The minutes of the Board meeting of Sept 16, 2015 were approved upon a motion by Joe Scorpion, seconded by Guy Tumolo. The minutes of the luncheon meeting of the same day were approved upon a motion by Joe Scorpion as seconded by Ginny Bowman.**

Financial Reports

**The list of expenses submitted through Cassie Brandon last month which totaled \$1391.71 were approved upon a motion by Roger Westman and seconded by Joe Scorpion. Guy Tumolo moved to approve this month's expense report totaling \$357.04 (see attachment). Ginny Bowman seconded the motion which was carried. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report submitted in advance by Ken Bell was approved upon a motion by Roger Westman, seconded by Guy Tumolo.**

Newsletter

Ginny Bowman, Editor, reiterated the November 16 deadline for articles and listed those she already had. This issue will include a membership form for new members only. It was agreed to send this issue to all retirees. Guy Tumolo said he will obtain a disk from the Retirement Office containing the names and addresses for all retirees that can be used for this issue.

Guy recommended the need for members to fill vacancies on the ACRA Board should be mentioned in the newsletter. As an aside, Ginny mentioned that one member had been interested in a Board appointment but due to recent health concerns would only be open to consideration at a later time.

PAPERS Workshop

The PA Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems (PAPERS) 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Workshop is being held in Pittsburgh on November 18-19. **Roger Westman moved and Ginny Bowman seconded a motion to approve the \$50 registration fee for any Board Member to attend.** The value of attending or not attending was discussed.

### Donation

Pat Cray noted that the Neighborhood Legal Services is having a fund raising Campaign. She suggested making a gift to the Campaign in honor of E. J. Strasburger, Esq., who has done pro-bono legal work for ACRA. **Guy Tumolo moved and Joe Scorpion seconded the motion to donate \$250 in honor of Mr. Strassburger. The motion carried.**

### Bonding

Pat will call our bonding agency, Henderson Brothers, for clarification about the letter she received about from them.

### Elections

The Election Committee consists of Ken and Mary Lou Bell, Angela Conte, and Cassie Brandon.

### Annual Meeting

The meeting will begin at 11:30 am next month, with reports by the President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Pat has arranged for David Newell, who played Mr. McNeely on the Mr. Roger's Show, to provide entertainment following the business meeting. It was agreed to compensate him with \$250.

### Christmas Party

Pat arranged for the Keystone Barbershop Quartet to provide entertainment for \$175 in December. The usual Chinese Auction will follow them. Those agreeing to buy up to about \$100 in gifts for the auction were Joe, Roger, Guy, Ginny, Cassie and Pat.

The next Board meeting will be held Nov 18 starting at 10:00 am. This meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roger Westman  
Secretary

**Allegheny County Retirees Association (ACRA)**

Patricia Cray, President Joseph Scorpion, Vice President Roger Westman, Secretary Ken Bell, Treasurer Angela Conte, Director Ginny Bowman, Director Guy Tumolo, Director	<b>LIST OF PAYMENT REQUESTS                  OCTOBER, 2015</b>
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<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Image Box</b>	10/3/15	September website updates	\$100.00
<b>Banksville Printing</b>	10/3/15	\$217.04 – 625 October luncheon notifications	\$217.04
<b>Patricia Cray</b>	10/19/15	Two Giant Eagle Gift Certificates @\$20 each for raffle drawing at October luncheon	\$40.00
<b>INVOICE TOTALS</b>			<b><u>\$357.04</u></b>

ALLEGHENY COUNTY RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
LUNCHEON MEETING  
Wednesday, October 21, 2015

President Pat Cray opened the meeting at 12:02 pm by asking Ginny Bowman to introduce the speaker, Barbara Veazey, R.N., who is a geriatric Care Manager and certified APPRISE counselor. Ms. Veazey teaches on Medicare-related topics at CMU, Pitt and at Mt. Lebanon Adult Education program.

Ms. Veazey spoke of the Medicare Advantage programs available from various insurers and how to choose the best one. She began by asking a series of questions about one's background: If a veteran, then use the VA insurance; if one travels, then a PPO is best; if on oxygen, only one plan pays for that; and if one has hearing aids, a few plans will pay part of those costs. She handed out a chart of the most beneficial plans with the lowest costs from which anyone can choose a plan and explained her methodology of selecting the best of them.

She also cautioned about being in the hospital in an "observation" status due to the costs involved. If rehab is likely in ones future, then choosing a plan with a lower cost per visit is best. Finally, she mentioned the benefits and downsides of trip insurance.

She noted that the dispute between Highmark and UPMC should not affect admissions for Highmark Medicare patients to UPMC facilities until July 2016.

After lunch, Pat Cray called for nominations for officers of the Board. She had previously announced that she would not be running for President again. Roger Westman was nominated for President, and Guy Tumolo was nominated for Vice-President. There were no nominations from the floor for Secretary or Treasurer. Pat declared the nominations closed.

Pat mentioned the opportunities at the OASIS program for intergenerational tutoring. She also announced the ACRA Annual Meeting will begin at 11:30 am this November and include David Newell for entertainment. During the November meeting, Barbara Veazey will hold individual counseling sessions. On December 9 is the ACRA Christmas Party with the Keystone Barbershop Quartet and Chinese Auction.

Two Giant Eagle Gift cards for \$20 each were given away as door prizes, and the 50/50 yielded \$41 for the winner and an equal amount for ACRA. There were 47 people in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roger Westman  
Secretary