

ALLEGHENY COUNTY RETIREES ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Board Members Present: Ken Bell, Ginny Bowman, Angela Conte, Patricia Cray, and Roger Westman

Absent: Joe Scorpion

President Pat Cray opened the Annual Meeting at 11:32 by welcoming everyone. The meeting was held at the DoubleTree in Green Tree, PA. Pat summarized who would be giving reports and asked the Treasurer to begin.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ken Bell gave his report that is attached. As of September 30, 2015 the checking account has \$13,056.00 and the overall total assets are \$47,103.67. The overall total amount is \$2,763.54 higher than last year.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Roger Westman summarized the highlights of the previous year: going to a full-color newsletter, changing to a picnic luncheon in June, the popular walk 'n' talk to the Botanic Gardens in the spring, new procedures with the Retirement Office for presenting recent retirees with the opportunity to join ACRA, and the biggest accomplishment of the year being the successful campaign to obtain a \$20 per month increase in pension benefits. That biggest accomplishment being the result of a concerted effort begun the previous year by Pat Cray and including using survey results of ACRA members.

President's Report

This being Pat Cray's last meeting, she reflected on the highlights of the last 10 years of her involvement in ACRA. She said the face of ACRA is now different and it is time for some else to take over. When she began there were no regular luncheons or walk 'n' talks and members did not always know what was going on. She has worked to make ACRA's income and expenditures transparent. The organization is financially healthy and able to underwrite some of the members' expenses for activities, such as holding the picnic while only charging \$5.00 per person.

Thanks to the effort of Past President James McGrath retirees now have the opportunity to have two seats on the Retirement Board.

With only one nomination each for President and Vice-President this year and no other nominations for the other officers, there was no need for a written ballot to be mailed for the election. Folks must recognize the need to step up and offer to help. The By-Laws allow the remaining Board Members to appoint a Secretary and Treasurer.

Due to illness Pat is moving to be closer to her children in Allentown, Pa.

President-Elect Roger Westman then paid tribute to Pat's many accomplishments during her tenure. Pat was appointed Secretary in July 2006 and elected as President in November 2007. She came with a vision for ACRA and saw that realized. Operations are now transparent and activities frequent and open to members. In recognition, Pat was presented with a crystal vase inscribed with "Patricia Cray, ACRA President, 2007-2015, With Appreciation For Your Leadership" and a bouquet of flowers. In addition, everyone got to enjoy a piece of cake with white frosting decorated in ACRA's colors of blue and gold and inscribed with "Thank you, Pat, and Best Wishes." Pat responded by saying the gifts were gratifying.

After the entertainment, which consisted of David Newell talking of his days as Mr. McFeely on the Fred Roger's program, the election of Roger Westman as President and Guy Tumolo as Vice-President was confirmed by a vote of acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Westman
Secretary

Treasurer's Annual Report 2015.

Assets

Date	Money Market Acct	Checking Acct	Vanguard Acct	Postal Acct	Petty Cash	Total
10/01/14	0.00	15958.00	26830.04	1552.09	0.00	44340.13
09/30/15	0.00	13056.00	30823.62	3224.05	0.00	47103.67
					Difference	2763.54

Income

Dues	Donations	Other	Luncheon & fees M.M trns	Pay Pal	Total
14538.5	0		4509.27	3819.44	300.39
					Total

Expenses

Printing & Postage	Admin & Other	Meeting Costs & Luncheon Subsidies	USPS	Other	Web site	Total
7836.55	2136.14	7938.75	3000	700	1874.96	23486.4

Difference -318.8

The membership will notice I added a new cost section to include our web site management costs as well as our one year audit and yearly bonding fee. I think this is money well spent helping to keep our membership up to date on our organizations operations as well as getting out to a larger area.

We have managed to keep costs in line this year even with the added costs of our colored newsletter and our first annual ACRA picnic. We've also been busy printing up and preparing new membership packets and giving them to the retirement board to send out to newly retired county employees. We have already noticed an increase in new membership sign ups. The year end membership renewal and new member sign ups will really tell the tale as we hope to increase oThese numbers will be available in early February.

You will notice that we ended the year with a slight increase in our overall financial statement. 2,763.54 to the good but our operating costs this year surpassed our income for the year by 318.80. This was due to our added costs of managing our web site and the added expense of printing our newsletter in color and printing and mailing cost. I'm sure with our added efforts to get new retirees to join our organization we will soon get caught up on the income end of our operating costs.

This year we have managed to make a small profit from our Vanguard investment and shows the costs saving measures of our board of directors that netted us a 2,763.54 gain .This is still with the increased costs of our printing & Postage and the new technologies to help us get the word out about our association. Annual dues and donations provide 99% pf our income. As is obvious, our ability to exist and function is totally dependent of the generosity of our dues paying membership. Our assets reserve do enable us to weather periods of deficit spending, however our long term viability will require us to maintain expenditures in line with our income. With the memberships on going participation and support, the officers and directors will continue to work to maintain your confidence in the ACRA organization. Respectfully, Kenneth Bell ACRA treasurer.

ACRA ANNUAL MEETING LUNHEON
November 18, 2015

President Pat Cray introduced David Newell as the speaker. Mr. Newell was involved with Fred Rogers for 40 years, early on becoming Mr. McFeely of Speedy Delivery on the children's TV program on WQED. He spoke of the beginning with Josie Carey of the Children's Corner program, which went on the air in 1954 as the part of WQED, the first public TV station in the country.

Fred Rogers first worked with NBC on several popular programs at that time then transferred to WQED to help launch that station. David Newell volunteered with WQED for floor duty in 1967. In 1968, Fred began Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood and needed someone to "make deliveries" to him on the show and asked David to do that. That was the beginning of the Speedy Delivery Company and the Mr. McFeely character. David told several interesting stories of Fred Rogers as well as of his own time on the program,

David showed two short videos, one of him on the air with Fred and the other of an outtake where Fred Roger's struggled with a erecting a pop-up tent. Attendees laughed along with Fred during that outtake. After the luncheon David closed with another video of a sing along with words to the Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood theme song. Everyone enjoyed the program.

Door prizes consisted of two \$20 Giant Eagle gift cards. There were 33 people in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Westman
Secretary