

Minutes  
Allegheny County Retirees Association  
April 19, 2017 at 10 am

Present: Guy Tumolo, Pete Schepis, Janet Norkus, Angela Conte, Pam Long, Marge Lubawy, Joan McMahon, Connie Przybyla and Cassie Brandon

Absent: JoAnna McQuaide

Approval of Minutes

- Several changes were made to the March minutes;
- Motion to defer approval of March minutes was made by Joan McMahon and seconded by Marg Lubawy;
- March minutes will be reviewed and approved at the May meeting.

Financial Report and Approval of Expenses Ending March 31, 2017

- Balance: \$53,271.19
- Expenses: \$3,283.84
- The financial report was reviewed. Motion: Connie Przybyla, Seconded: Pete Schepis. Passed;
- The expense report was reviewed and approved for payment. Motion: Pam Long, Seconded: Joan McMahon. Passed.

Committee Reports

Newsletter:

June Newsletter Content:

- President's Article – Article should stress ACRA is an advocate for retirees and include information of about not receiving raise this year;;
- Treasurer's Report – Information from March minutes and beginning, ending and expense account balances;
- History of Health Department;
- In the Spotlight – Retiree Bob Dassel-Robinson – Dragon boating;
- Recap of March, April and May speakers;
- In Memoriam;
- Upcoming Events;
- If necessary – trivia.

September Newsletter Content (NEWSLETTER TO BE MAILED TO ALL RETIREES):

- President's Article;
- Flu Shot Article (General Information);
- History of Juvenile Court;
- In the Spotlight – Retiree Mary Lou Kosis – Raising Orchids;
- PNC Tour;
- ACRA Picnic;
- In Memoriam;
- Upcoming Events;
- If necessary – trivia.

December Newsletter Content:

- President's Article;
- History of Allegheny County Jail;
- In the Spotlight – Retiree George Erny – Vegetable Garden;
- Recap of September & October Speakers;
- In Memoriam;
- Upcoming Events;
- If necessary – trivia.

#### Membership

- 239 former members not paid for 2017;
- A second notice regarding membership fees was recently sent to the 239 members;
- Out of the 239, 76 of those members have not paid for 2016;
  - The 76 members who have not responded will be removed from the active member list in August 2017;
- Several members paid dues twice. Janet was able to contact most of these members;
  - She was not able to contact 11 member – it was decided that the double payment would be credited to their 2018 dues;
- NEW POLICY – MEMBERSHIP
  - After non-payment of dues for two (2) years member will be dropped from active member list;
  - Members will remain on the list until August, if there has been no response to the second notice.

#### Program

- September Speaker
  - Title of subject: Opiate Addiction in Allegheny County;
  - A representative from Allegheny County Department of Human Services-Drug and Alcohol Program will speak on the topic;
  - As of now, a speaker has not been identified;
  - Guy Tumolo will contact DHS in an attempt to secure a speaker;
  - Pam Long has made contact with Dr. Eric Hulsey. He states Dr. Davis-Jones, Administrator of DHS Drug and Alcohol would like to speak with Ms. Long regarding the program;
    - Attempts made to speak with Dr. Davis-Jones have been unsuccessful.
- October Speaker
  - Ms. Sturgess has requested \$150 honorarium payment in advance of meeting;
    - Pam will contact Ms. Sturgess that ACRA is unable to pay honorarium prior to meeting;
  - She has also requested a computer, a projector, microphone, and a laser pointer;
    - Connie will supply computer.
  - Guy Tumolo moved that we should prefer to arrange for speakers who does not charge honorariums. If speakers do request an honorarium, it should not exceed \$100.00. Marg Lubawy seconded it.
  - Joan McMahan discussed an Alzheimer Society speaker for the future. ACRA Board members were in favor of the suggestion.
- PNC Tour
  - Currently there are 15 people signed up for the tour;
  - The deadline to register is May 10, 2017.

- June Picnic
  - Lunch will be served around 11:30 am;
  - Picnic will be from 11 am to 3 pm;
  - Cost to members is \$5;
  - Deadline to register for the picnic is June 16, 2017.

#### Election Committee

- A chairman is needed for this committee;
- The following positions are up for re-election this year:
  - President;
  - Vice President;
  - Treasurer;
  - Secretary.

#### Miscellaneous

##### ACRA Brochure

- The newly created brochure was reviewed;
- The following changes are to be made to brochure:
  - Change number of members to “over 1000;”
  - Use the full name of hotel “DoubleTree by Hilton;”
- Connie will make changes and then contact printer for price for 250/500 brochures;
- Ginny Bowman will be given new brochure to insert into new retiree packets.

##### Newsletter Distribution List

- County Council Members are to continue to receive a copy of the newsletter;
  - Cassie Brandon is to update the County Council members list.

##### Mass Emailing

- Connie Przybyla emailed out a notice for the April & May luncheon meeting and the PNC tour;
- The email directed members to website for more information on the luncheon speakers and the PNC tour;
- There was a 52% open rate on this latest mass emailing;
- Additionally, there were approximately 32 bad email addresses in the latest distribution list;
  - Cassie Brandon will update as many addresses as possible.

##### Retirement Board

- There is a new president of the Retirement Board, Walt Szymanski;
- Guy Tumolo and Pete Schepis will schedule a meeting to discuss ACRA and various issues.

##### Holiday Party

- Members were asked to begin to think about what type of entertainment we would like for the annual ACRA Holiday Party.

Member

- Member Elizabeth Davis emailed ACRA and stated that although she has a physical handicap, she is willing to help ACRA from her home;
  - Connie Przybyla will email her and thank her for her offer;
  - She will suggest to Ms. Davis to research some speakers for future luncheon/meetings;
  - Additionally, she will ask Ms. Davis if she would like to write an article about the history of the department from which she retired.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:35 am

Respectfully Submitted,  
Connie Przybyla  
Joan McMahon  
Pamela Long