



Association of Retired Employees of Orange County
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation
Meetings Held at OCERS, 2223 Wellington Avenue, Santa Ana CA
Annual AREOC Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Present: Sara Ruckle Harms, Tom Cooney, Lou Scarpino, Rebecca Guider, Larry Leaman, Linda Robinson and Doug Storm. Also in attendance Ilene Bárcenas, Executive Director. There is a quorum.

Absent: Gaylan Harris

I. The AREOC Board meeting was called to order by the AREOC President, Sara Ruckle Harms at 10:22 AM.

II. Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2017

A motion was made by Linda Robinson and seconded by Tom Cooney to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2017 meeting as written. Motion carried.

III. Election of Officers

A. President –

Doug Storm made a motion to nominate Sara Ruckle Harms to be the AREOC President; seconded by Rebecca Guider; motion carried.

Nomination to close the election made by Larry Leaman; seconded by Rebecca Guider; motion carried.

Sara Ruckle Harms has been nominated to continue as the AREOC President.

B. Secretary

Larry Leaman made a motion to nominate Lou Scarpino to be the AREOC Secretary; seconded by Linda Robinson; motion carried.

Nomination to close the election made by Larry Leaman; seconded by Rebecca Guider; motion carried.

Lou Scarpino has been nominated to continue as the AREOC Secretary.

C. Treasurer-Chief Financial Officer

Doug Storm made a motion to nominate Tom Cooney to be the AREOC Treasurer; seconded by, Lou Scarpino. Motion carried.

Nomination to close the election made by Rebecca Guider; seconded by Linda Robinson; motion carried.

Tom Cooney has been nominated to continue as the AREOC Treasurer.

IV. 2017 Values & Vision

A. Values

Sara Ruckle Harms led a discussion regarding the Vision and Goals of AREOC. After discussion, we will delete value #3, Stable.

Action Item: Ilene Bárcenas will update the web page to delete the AREOC value of “stable”.

B. Vision

The vision for AREOC is to be a recognized, unifying voice for the protection of retiree rights and benefits. This Vision will carry us into 2017.

V. Review Outcomes of AREOC Goals – 2015/2016

A. OCEA – Jennifer Muir

Outcome: Sara Ruckle Harms stated that we have begun to work with Jennifer Muir and believes that we should continue these efforts and continue to define our relationship with OCEA. With the potential future changes in the health care market, it may become more crucial to work with OCEA as the health coverage for active and retirees may be severely impacted.

B. County CEO – Frank Kim

Outcome: we have created a relationship with Frank Kim and there is an agreement to meet on a regular basis. The next meeting with the CEO and Employee Benefits will be February 16, 2017. The goal has been met and REAOC will continue to have an ongoing relationship with the CEO.

C. RPEA & CRCEA Collaboration:

Outcome: this has been established by Skip Murphy; the President of RPEA has attended the last two CRCEA Conferences. We need to continue to have items for REPA and

CRCEA to work on through this collaboration. Does AREOC want to continue to move on this relationship? It also may be appropriate to add NCPERS to this goal as a collaborative partner with CRCEA.

Action Item: Lou Scarpino will follow up with CRCEA to determine if they are still interested in expanding the collaboration with RPEA and beginning a new collaboration with NCPERS.

D. Rapid Response Team:

Outcome: we have explored ways to go about this but have not achieved this goal for 2016. Jennifer Muir was brought into the conversation regarding Rapid Response and she believes that countering editorials with great stories can be more effective. It will be important for developing an advocacy program. This will include message development and marketing in 2017.

E. Meeting with Frank Eley

Outcome: Frank Eley was successful elected to the OCERS Board of Directors and is now a REAOC Board member. This goal was achieved.

F. Contact with Gary Crummett, Professional Treasurer:

Outcome: To date we have not been very successful with hiring a professional treasurer. At this time, Tom Cooney is handling the job as Treasurer in an excellent fashion.

Action Items: Tom Cooney will work with Bill Castro to create a calendar of legal filing deadlines.

Sara Ruckle Harms will contact Rosemary once again about assisting AREOC as needed.

VI. Establish New Goals for 2017

A. Create a small group dedicated to monitoring Congressional legislative action

Sara Ruckle Harms shared a document regarding how grass works can be successful. For example, as a part of the ACA, the “donut-hole” in Medicare has seen new coverage so that the holes in coverage have been filled. A small group can monitor the changes within the legislative process and then try to share information on how the legislation can be supported, fought, etc. We would have to have a very narrow and specific topic to work on with volunteers who could make things happen. We would have to carefully vet the issue and then work with appropriate volunteers who understand the process.

B. Do we need to include any of 2016 goals into 2017?

We will continue with the goals from 2016 that were not achieved into 2017. We will add a new goal for developing an advocacy program and a focus group to monitor legislation.

The goals for 2017 will be:

1. Continue our collaboration with OCEA and Jennifer Muir
2. Support RPEA & CRCEA & NCPERS Collaboration
3. Create a small advocacy focus group to monitor legislative issues of interest to retirees

A motion was made by Lou Scarpino and seconded Rebecca Guider to accept the new goals for 2017 for AREOC. Motion carried.

VII. 2017 Budget Discussion

A draft budget was submitted to the AREOC Board for consideration. Tom Cooney explained the line items of the proposed budget for 2017. Discussions ensued to change some of the amounts budgeted in the areas of advocacy, conference and meetings, travel/mileage and legal defense reserve. Tom Cooney will update the budget and share the updated version with the AREOC Board. We should have approximately \$5 K remaining in the reserve.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Linda Robinson and seconded by Rebecca Guider to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 PM. Motion carried.