

SONOMA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES (SCARE)
P.O. BOX 5513, SANTA ROSA, CA 95402 www.sonomacountyretirees.com

Minutes of SCARE Board Meeting of Wednesday, March 03, 2021
ZOOM Meeting – 1 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Cora Guy, Patty Hamley, Lou Maricle, John Pels, Bill Robotka, Alix Shor, Phyris Tobler, and Kathy Young

Absent: Carol Bauer, Chris Bauer, Ed Clites, and Shaun DuFosee

The Zoom Meeting was called to order by President Alix Shor.

1. Minutes: It was moved by Kathy, seconded by John, and approved by all that the Minutes of the January 6th and February 10th Board Meetings are approved.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Bill reported he rolled over one of our CDs at a lower rate. Rates have really dropped in the last year. There was a discussion about making donations to local charities, and it was agreed a donation plan needed to be established first.

3. SCARE Facebook Ground Rules:

It was moved by Bill; seconded by Lou; and approved by all that the following Ground Rules (suggested by Bob Bulwa and Paul Klonsky) be posted on SCARE's Facebook Page:

- 1) The SCARE Facebook group is open only to SCARE members and spouses, and all applications to join this group are screened for approval by group admin. If you are a retired Sonoma County employee and not yet a member of SCARE, you may join at this link:
<http://www.sonomacountyretirees.com/membership.shtml>.
- 2) The purpose of this Facebook group is primarily informational. All members are encouraged to participate, and all topics related to the health and welfare of members are welcome. Although the factual basis for information is important, differing opinions or interpretations of information are expected and will be tolerated within limits.
- 3) Discussions must be kept civil. Healthy debates are natural, but kindness is expected, and there will be zero tolerance for bullying, threatening or degrading comments. If admins feel your post is inappropriate, it will be removed, and you will be contacted and given the opportunity to discuss/dispute that decision. If you persist in disallowed posting, you risk removal from the group at the discretion of admins. If you personally feel a post is objectionable, contact admin who are listed under "members."
- 4) This group page is not an appropriate place for advertising products, promoting your personally held political or religious views, fundraising for any cause (unless approved by the SCARE Board), or

promoting election candidates or propositions, including your personal campaign if applicable. We are sure you can find other more appropriate locations for those activities. Again, if it an issue of concern to retirees, keep your comments relevant, factual and civil.

4. Speakers for Membership Zoom Meetings: Cora will be scheduling speakers for our May 25 and August 24 Membership Zoom Meetings. Suggested topics are Estate Planning (Council on Aging or a Private Attorney) and Sonoma County Regional Parks Department.

5. Scholarship Changes: No changes are expected for our Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State Scholarships. Ed Clites will be working with those schools.

6. Membership Survey: Kathy Young distributed a four-page narrative of suggestions from members who responded to our survey that was mailed out last November. Over 575 responses have been returned so far. There was discussion of which ones we have already added and which we might be able to incorporate in the future. This is an ongoing project for the Board.

7. JLMBC: Phyris reported good news. In response to a request from her and Bill, the County changed the projected premium for the County Health Plan (CHP) from a 2.5% increase to a 1% decrease, saving Medicare retirees over \$25/month, and those under 65 about \$45/month. Open Enrollment to review and make changes to current medical and dental coverage will be March 15 thru April 2. Changes will be effective June 1, 2021 thru May 31, 2022. Due to Covid restrictions, annual enrollment meetings this year will be held via zoom. Our life insurance administrator will be changed from Hartford to United Health Care. Western Health Advantage is now offering a Medicare Advantage plan that is about half the cost of the County Health Plan, although the service area is much more limited.

8. SCCLO and ICPC: Bill is on both of these committees. He reported that SCCLO is starting to meet again to discuss pensions. Most of the unions are involved. ICPC hasn't met for a while.

9. Membership Meetings: Where to hold our Membership Meetings when everything is opened up was discussed. In response to the survey, many stated parking at Steele Lane is unfavorable. We currently have a deposit of \$961 at the Steele Lane Community for future meetings. Finley Center is also a City of Santa Rosa facility and would be preferable. Members would also like to have a larger meeting room where food can be served. Patty will check on the availability of Finley.

9. Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Hamley, Secretary

2021 Schedule:

March 10 – Luncheon (canceled)
May 5 – Board Meeting 1 p.m.
May 25 – Membership Meeting 1 p.m.

June 9 – Luncheon (canceled)
July 7 – Board Meeting 1 p.m.
August 24 – Membership Meeting 1 p.m.
September 1 – Board Meeting 1 p.m.
September 8 – Luncheon
November 3 – Board Meeting 1 p.m.
November 16 – Membership Meeting
December 8 -- Luncheon