

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 7, 2018
SCLEA Office, Santa Rosa – 1 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Bill Adams, Carol Bauer, Bob Bulwa, Ed Clites, Shaun DuFosee, Dick Gearhart, Patty Hamley, Lou Maricle, Alix Shor, and Phyris Tobler.

Board Member Absent: John Pels

The meeting was called to order by Alix at 1:15 p.m. There was a quorum.

1. Minutes: It was moved by Lou, seconded by Dick, and agreed by all (with two abstentions) that the Minutes of the January 3, 2018, Board Meeting are approved.

2. Treasurer's Report: Bill distributed the February Financial Statement. Phyris and Bill met with Mark Walsh to determine if a formal audit is needed. Mark said no. Carol, Phyris, and Bill conduct informal audits periodically.

3. CRCEA Conference: The 2018 Spring CRCEA Conference will be held April 16–18 at the Fess Parker Double Tree Hotel in Santa Barbara, hosted by the Retired Employees of Santa Barbara County. Lou will attend as SCARE's representative. It was moved by Ed and seconded by Lou that Bob Bulwa also attend.

Sonoma and Mendocino Counties will be in charge of the Fall 2019 CRCEA Conference. Ed volunteered to contact SCARE member Cindy Moore to see if she would be willing to be in charge of that conference once again, as she was in 2011. All SCARE Board members will work on the conference.

4. Membership Services: It was suggested that e-mails be sent to the membership reminding them of upcoming events, such as meetings, luncheons, or other events of interest to retirees.

Alix suggested that we have the speakers at our Business Meetings come in after the business portion is finished. Currently the speaker comes in first and many members leave before SCARE business is discussed. Bob Bulwa is in charge of scheduling our speakers and setting up any equipment needed, so a ten-minute break may be required between the business part of the meeting and the speakers. It was decided to give this a try.

There was discussion about changing where our luncheons could be held to attract more members. Dick will check with LaGare, and Ed will check on the Graton Casino. It was moved by Carol, seconded by Phyris, and approved by all that a drawing for two free future luncheons take place at our luncheons as well as at our Business Meetings.

Dick, Bob, Lou, and Patty will investigate possible fun day-trip activities for our members.

5. Strategic Planning: It was moved by Bill, seconded by Dick, and approved by all that we have a half-day planning session with a facilitator (including catered lunch). Dick will check with Marin

County to see how their planning session worked. It was suggested that it be held at the SCLEA Office (possibly on a Saturday) with Panera catering the lunch.

6. Scholarships: Bob will be checking with the Santa Rosa Junior College Financial Aid Office to see if any students have applied for our scholarships. SCARE offers two \$2,000 scholarships at Sonoma State and two \$1,500 scholarships at SRJC to students who are children or grandchildren of Sonoma County employees or retirees. We need to keep reminding our members that these scholarships are available.

7. Board Watching: Alix asked that someone volunteer to check the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Agenda each week and let Board members know if there is something we should be concerned about. Ed said he will check the Board's Agenda online each week.

Ed also volunteered to attend SCERA Meetings.

8. Pensions Committee: Bill Robotka reported on the Independent Citizens Pension Committee (ICPC) meeting he attended on March 1. Efforts are continuing to reduce pensions, and SCARE members are encouraged to attend these meetings, which are public meetings under the Brown Act. The next meeting will be held May 3 at 10 a.m. The meeting he attended was held at 2300 County Center Drive, Room 212. Bill will continue to attend these meetings.

9. SCALO: Bill Robotka reported SEIU is now at the table. In the next six months they will all be at the table.

10. JLMBC Report: Phyris' request to allow SCARE Kaiser members have access to Advantage Plus benefits for an extra \$20 per month was denied. That program would include an additional eyewear allowance, membership to Silver & Fit, a hearing aid allowance, and a Delta Dental Program. It may someday be added, but not now.

11. Legal – Recommendations for Mutual Benefit Organization Attorney:

Phyris reported on a couple outstanding issues related to our settlement. No response from the County yet.

Since SCARE is incorporated as a labor organization, we will contact other labor organizations to get the names of possible attorneys we can talk to regarding any corporation restrictions or options we have on spending our money.

12. Recognitions Awards for Retiring Board Members: After discussing, it was moved by Bill Adams, seconded by Shaun, and approved by all that a maximum of \$150 be spent on a gift. Phyris will contact Greg Jacobs to see what his preference would be to show our appreciation for his years serving on the SCARE Board.

13. Volunteers to Do Presentations at SCERA Retirement Planning Classes: Alix, Carol, Dick, Lou, and Phyris have volunteered to speak to future retirees.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Hamley, SCARE Secretary

Upcoming 2018 Events:

March 14 – Luncheon – Oakmont

May 2 – Board Meeting

May 22 – Business Meeting – Steele Lane

June 13 – Luncheon – Oakmont

June 27 – Board Meeting

August 28 – Business Meeting – Steele Lane

August 29 – Board Meeting

September 12 – Luncheon – Oakmont

November 7 – Board Meeting

November 27 – Business Meeting – Steele Lane

December 12 –Luncheon -- Oakmont