

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, May 1, 2019
SCLEA Office, Santa Rosa – 1 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Carol Bauer, Ed Clites, Shaun DuFosee, Cora Guy, Patty Hamley, Lou Maricle, Bill Robotka, Alix Shor, Phyris Tobler, and Kathy Young.

Board Members Absent: Wendie Cooper

The Meeting was called to order by President Alix Shor.

1. Minutes: It was moved by Phyris, seconded by Lou, and agreed by all that the Minutes of the February 26, 2019 Membership Meeting and March 6, 2019 Board Meeting are approved.

2. Treasurer's Report: Bill distributed the April Financial Statement to the Board Members. Two CDs are maturing this fall. There was a discussion about transferring money to Luther Burbank or Community First.

3. CRCEA Conference Planning: Carol and Alix traveled to San Diego to attend the CRCEA Spring Conference April 14-17 and talk to their Board Members. San Diego donated several items for Sonoma County's October 28-30 Fall Conference. Carol thought their conference was very good except for food served. We will want to do a better job with that. This year is the 50th anniversary of CRCEA.

Kathy Young volunteered to Co-Chair the Fall Conference with Carol Bauer. State Senator Mike McGuire has confirmed he will be a speaker at the conference. Carol will go to the Doubletree Hotel to pay for the ground floor hospitality suite and room for Steve Pettee of Pacific Group. She will also be asking Redwood Credit Union for a donation to our Conference.

4. Strategic Planning:

Independent Citizens Pension Committee (ICPC) Report: Bill Robotka reported on the meetings he and Ed Clites have been attending. Two new members have joined the group.

SCARE To Pay More for Luncheons: It was moved by Ed, seconded by Cora, and approved by all that SCARE pay \$10 of the \$30 charge for luncheons, beginning September 11.

Meeting with Michael Allen: Alix and Phyris have had both email and face-to-face discussions with Michael Allen, attorney, to discuss what kinds of things we can spend our money on and any limitations that we should be aware of. There are not many limitations if we can show the expenses are in furtherance of SCARE's purpose, which is to promote and protect the welfare and interests of Sonoma County retired employees. Here is a list of some things we do already and some that we could do:

- We can subsidize luncheons or trips, if scheduled, to the extent the Board thinks is appropriate.

- We can provide refreshments at any SCARE event. (Note: There was a discussion of providing lunch before the General Membership Meeting. Patty will check with the Steele Lane Community Center to see if this is feasible in our meeting room.)
- We can have raffles, either at events or for all members, as long as we don't charge anything for the raffle tickets.
- We can pay for or reimburse Board members for any expenses of operating the organization.
- It is permissible under California corporation law to pay Board members a stipend. However, SCARE bylaws only allow reimbursement of expenses. Board members are allowed to claim mileage to SCARE activities except for Board Meetings and General Membership Meetings.

Note: Not discussed at meeting but, if we want to make any political donations, we have to have a PAC.

SCARE Membership: It was suggested that active employees be able to join SCARE. No decision was made on this or how it would work. A new brochure will be prepared that could be handed out when we do the SCERA presentations and at other times.

Wild Apricot Program: Lou will investigate Wild Apricot, a membership management program, including event registration, email and member databases. The cost could be \$4,000 per year but it would simplify our workload and make sending information to members much easier.

5. Scholarships: It was moved by Bill, seconded by Cora, and approved by all that high school seniors now be able to apply for SCARE'S Santa Rosa J.C. and Sonoma State University scholarships. The applicant must be a child or grandchild of an employee or retiree and must have a GPA of at least 2.5 for SRJC or 3.0 for Sonoma State.

6. SCCLO Report: Bill reported they will be meeting on Saturdays, plus continuing to meet once a month on Thursday before JLMBC. More union reps are able to attend the Saturday meetings. Bill will be asking for donations to the CRCEA Conference. For every \$100 donated, one person can attend the conference free. Phyris will maintain a separate listing of these attendees.

7. JLMBC Report: Phyris and Bill reported the County wants to phase out the County Health Plan. We want to make sure there is an alternative for retirees who are not eligible for any of the other plans.

8. Retiring Board Members: Bob Bulwa and John Pels recently resigned from the SCARE Board. Per our policy, Bill Robotka reported he mailed gift certificates to both of them.

9. Survey: Cora asked about the survey that is to go out to the membership. More work needs to be done before it will be mailed out.

10. Pacific Group Insurance: SCERA will not collect premiums if retirees wish to purchase a Pacific Group Insurance Policy (pet insurance, trip insurance, etc.). According to Steve Pettee of Pacific Group, premiums can be deducted directly from checking accounts. He will mail out info on their policies.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Hamley, SCARE Secretary

Upcoming Events

May 28 – Membership Meeting—Steele Lane

June 12 – Luncheon – Legends

July 10 – Board Meeting

August 27 – Membership Meeting – Steele Lane

September 4 – Board Meeting

September 11 – Luncheon – Legends

October 27-30 – CRCEA Conference – Doubletree, Rohnert Park

November 6 – Board Meeting

November 19 – Membership Meeting – Steele Lane

December 11 – Luncheon – Legends