

Association of Retired Seattle City Employees

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2021

Meeting was called to order by John Masterjohn at 10:08 AM via Zoom

Present: John Masterjohn, Edie Jorgensen, Alan Brittenham, Elizabeth Paschke, Bob Chandler, Mike Nagan, Jeannette Voiland, Ann Miller, Ann Kelson, Ed Steyh, Mary Steyh.

Excused: Victoria Troisi, Sharon Mickelson, Larry Mickelson, Helen Tsang, Lee Sattler, Pat Kirkness, Merle Overland, Florence Harrell, Melina Thung.

Absent: Ann Beard,

Minutes from January 13, 2021 were approved as corrected.

Communications and Membership Committee: Ann Kelson reported that the pending vacancy in the Financial Secretary position is critical to the operation of the committee.

Finance: Much discussion followed about the Financial Secretary position. A possible bylaw change to more accurately define the duties of the office was discussed. A group of four was put together to rewrite the job description of Fin Sec. Melina, Ed, Edie and Elizabeth.

The problem of communication with the SCERS office, which flows through the Financial Secretary in the form of retired employee lists and related info, was discussed. One hangup was the City shifting away from an Access database to a new system that is not compatible, and restricted due to security concerns, requiring manual entry of data and the familiarity with the appropriate software as a prime skill for the Financial Secretary.

The problem of recruitment of a replacement Financial Secretary was discussed. There was general agreement that combining Secretary and Treasurer offices was a non-starter, and that the organization is stronger when more members are involved. Jeannette will put a notice in the Facebook page, and Mike will do the same for the website, to supplement the item in the newsletter. Mike discussed a special letter that could go out targeting recent employees who might be interested in getting involved. No action was taken on that idea.

Elections: Ed Steyh reported that the ballots will go out in the next newsletter.

Officer Reports: Elizabeth Paschke had sent out a definition of usual and customary bills that were paid regularly and asked if further board action was needed to make

them official. After discussion, no further action was taken other than to accept the list as submitted. A motion was passed the previous month that covered it.

Elizabeth noted that the Officers are considered employees, which results in much payroll deduction paperwork for tiny amounts of withholding. Discussion was had on the options, including salary versus stipend, employees versus volunteers, and the tax implications of each.

Under Old Business, the connection between the Bylaw changes needed to update the Financial Secretary position and the definition of our officers as employees along with the communications issues with SCERS caused by their changes brought up some lingering issues that have been addressed in the past but remain unsolved.

Further complications loom in the form of a Bill in the State Legislature that may wind up totally rewriting the definition of non-profit organization.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

Next meeting will be held on March 10, 2021, via Zoom. If you are unable to attend, please contact John Masterjohn at 206-362-2245 or e-mail him at [president@arsce.org](mailto:president@arsce.org)

Respectfully submitted by Alan Brittenham, Recording Secretary