

AARSPA Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, April 11, 2024
Board of Education, Center 2A,10:00 AM

Attending: Tillie Barckley, Rick Wiles, Virginia Crespo, Kay Stawas, Robert Kanach, Tom Leary, Max Muller, Kate Gilbert, Ray Bibeault, Karlie Everett, Linda, Poole, Deb Ahalt, Sharyn Doyle, Leslie Schell, Susan Baugher, Charles Gable, and Zetta Hart

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM by Co-President Sharyn Doyle, followed by the pledge to the flag led by Rick Wiles. Co-President Doyle introduced our guests at this meeting, Ray Bibeault, Kate Gilbert, and Tom Leary.

Recording Secretary

The minutes from our January 11, 2024, meeting was referenced and approved with corrections needed.

Treasurer’s Report

Max Muller gave the report for our current budget through March. There was a carryover from the scholarship funds from June 30, 2023. (\$12,107.97) We now have \$21, 246.32 for next year’s scholarships. The current available funds for FY24 are \$41, 246.32. This includes dues, 50-50 Raffle, and donations.

Corresponding Secretary

Brenda Gibson sent her report to the presidents and recording secretary.

The following individuals are being sent letters of congratulations for their selections as finalists for county and state awards.

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| 1. Dr. Mark Bedell, Superintendent AACPS | 11. Dr. Tim Tooten, WBAL TV 11 |
| 2. Joan Conrad, AASPS | 12. Jerome Chester, WBAL TV 11 |
| 3. Bon Mosier, AACPS | 13. Tim Tunison, WBAL TV 11 |
| 4. Maneka Monk, AACPS | 14. Jamie Dinwiddle, Allied Party Rentals |
| 5. Steuart Pittman, County Executive | 15. Robert Silkworth, AACPS Board |
| 6. Courtney Buiniskis, Community Engagement
Office, Executive Officer | 16. Katie Dentler, Linthicum Walks |
| 7. Master Sargent Gethers, Meade High School | 17. Dianne Feeny, Hancock’s Resolution |
| 8. Lydia Gonzalez, Meade High School | 18. Debbie Wood, Chesapeake Children’s Museum |
| 9. Stuart Schmidt, State Delegate | 19. Cindy Borchard, Chesapeake Children’s Museum |
| 10. Pete Smith, County Council | 20. Luvly Gaub, Chesapeake Children’s Museum |

Other letters of congratulations were sent to the following individuals:

- *Principal Kimberly Winterbottom, NASP (National Association of Secondary Principals) 2023
- *Ms. Mary K. Connerton, Annapolis High School, Maryland State Teacher of the Year 2023 (MSDE)

Current letters to be sent:

- *Principal Heather Garris, Tracy’s Landing, George Arlotto Leadership Award, AACPS Principal of Year
- *Kelso Reyes, 6th grade student at Bates Middle, designed student mission patch as part of SSEP—Student Spaceflights Experiment Program—patch recently went on space flight

Committee Reports

AARSPA Voices in Melody

Rick Wiles shared that the chorus has been practicing. There are currently 30 active members. Mr. Wiles also reported that the new director is Terry Stackley. Dates of performances are posted in “Dates to Remember.”

Community Service/Consumer Education

Charlie Gable reported that the committee is offering two mini-grants that were presented at the individual school's faculty meetings North County High School and Rivera Beach. The application for Maryland Senior Citizen Hall of Fame has been submitted for Louise De Jesu.

Educator/Employee of the Month Committee

The last Employee of the Month awards will be in May.

Free School Museum/Maintenance Committee

Karlie Everett reported that the Maryland Day Celebration was a success. There were actors in period attire, games, slate writing, planting corn, walnut ink that was used for writing, and johnny cakes. There had been a great deal of publicity for the event. Ms. Everett reported that she will share the history of the Free School during the professional days that start the new school year. A thank you was stated for the Hammond Family who have dedicated time and energy to keeping the school clean for visitors. There have been four group tours and the Open House season for the facility is underway. A request for more docents was made to help with the visitors as the facility becomes active.

The Free School is owned by the BOE and they provide the insurance for the facility. Volunteers are covered by their own personal insurance. A discussion was had about the children climbing the tree in front of the school. It was suggested that a sign be made to inform the children of the age of the tree and its fragility. More research will be done to find out the exact insurance coverage that is in place for the Free School.

Historian and Editor of the Informer Committee

Dates for the next Informer will be July 11th for submissions to appear in the July 26th document.

Legislative Committee

Virginia Crespo reported that MRSPA is following 58 bills. They are opposed to 12 bills. 10 bills were passed into law. Other bills related to retirees will be brought up in another session. Ms. Crespo distributed a handout listing the bills that are before the legislature. This can also be found on the [MRSPA](#) website. It was also reported that AARP is assisting with the legislation.

Membership Committee

Leslie Schell reported that the membership is holding steady. She expects to pick up more members in July. Letters have been sent to individuals who have not joined as of this date. There has been an increase in the sign-up for the Eastern Shore luncheon on April 18th after a blast email was sent. An event is being planned for September to invite new retirees.

Posters are being prepared for display in schools and satellite locations. There was discussion about allowing individuals in the 55+ range to be associate members.

Pre-retirement Committee

Susan Baugher reported that posters have been approved by HR and are being printed for distribution in May. Design and Print have been very helpful in getting this poster ready. The hope is to provide 3 for elementary schools, 5 for middle/high schools, and 2 to cafeteria workers and satellite centers. The posters must include all of the different individuals who are eligible to be members, custodians, cafeteria workers, IT offices, and Operations.

Program Committee

No Report

Publicity Committee

Deb Ahalt thanked Bob Kanach for the pictures he provided for publication.

Raffle Committee

No Report

Remembrance/Sunshine Committee

Linda Poole provided a handout with the plans for the Remembrance Ceremony on May 9th. Currently 53 members will be recognized. Following the meeting, the flowers will be displayed at the BOE in the lobby with a framed memorial list. As of April 10th, we have 60 Emeritus members with additional reaching 90 in June. The framed photos of the Blue Angels are ready for transport. They will be placed at the bar in Two Rivers for viewing and bidding in the silent auction. Winners will be announced at the luncheon.

Scholarship Committee

Tillie Barckley thanked us for supporting the scholarship committee. She also thanked her team for helping review the applications. She announced that her team reviewed 19 scholarship applications. Four students were selected: Conner Raeke-Old Mill High School, Christina Riley-South River High School, Kaylee Nehring-Southern High School, Catherine Lombardi-Archbishop Spalding High School. Discussion was had relating to both parents being invited to the luncheon. It was decided that both could attend. For future decisions it was shared that we need to consider the number of scholarships for 2025.

Trips and Travel Committee

Kay Stawas reported that trip news is published in The Informer. There is a day trip being planned for October 7th.

Restaurant Choices

Bob Kanach reported that he was checking with CAT-N for a return to their facility. The menu would be just the items students were learning about during class. He is also considering a luncheon at the Elks Club in Severna Park, but one of our other locations must be dropped. It was decided that Kurtz Beach or Olive Grove would be eliminated.

Memorial Service Meeting

Sharyn Doyle would like to know who wishes to speak at the May Meeting. Rick Wiles, Max Muller, Tillie Barckley, Leslie Schell, and Phyllis Cherry wish to have time to speak to our members.

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

No New Business

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM

Dates to Remember

Thurs., April 18, 2024	Eastern Shore Luncheon at Suicide Bridge Restaurant
Tues., May 7, 2024	MRSPA Annual Business Meeting at Turf Valley Resort 2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City, MD
Thurs., May 9, 2024	General Membership Meeting, Two Rivers Restaurant, Pasadena, MD, 10:30 AM
Thurs., May 9, 2024	Voices in Melody, Two Rivers Restaurant, 10:30 AM
Mon., May 13, 2024	Voices in Melody, Pasadena Senior Center, 1:00 PM
Thurs., May 16, 2024	Voices in Melody, Pascal Senior Center, 12:30 PM
Mon., May 20, 2024	Voices in Melody, Brightview Senior Living, 469 Jumpers Hole Road, Severna, Park, 1:00 PM
Tues., May 21, 2024	Blue Angels Cruise and Dinner at Red, Hot, and Blue, Annapolis
Thurs., May 30, 2024	Voices in Melody, O'Malley Senior Center, 12:15 PM
Thurs., June 13, 2024	Executive Board Meeting, The Free School, 1298 Lavall Drive, Davidsonville, MD
Thurs., July 11, 2024	Executive Board Meeting, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM BOE, Center 2A

Respectfully
Submitted
Zetta Hart
Recording Secretary