**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:23 by Kathlene Lyman, first vice-president. The group was led in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of “My Country ‘Tis of Thee”.

**Introductions** of RC 12 officers, executive board members and guests were made. One new retiree and six new guests were welcomed.

**Secretary’s Report:** The minutes of the March 22, 2018 general membership meeting, which were approved by the board of directors on April 5, 2018, were presented to the membership.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Kathy Lyman, for Dolores Talmadge, presented the proposed budget for July 1, 2018 – June 20, 2019. A few amendments were made. Margaret Dafeldecker moved and John Mazur seconded to accept the amended budget. The motion passed. The appointment of the audit committee was made. Members are: John Mazur (chairman), Gloria Kimball, Phyllis Van Steenburgh, and Jean Sekel.

**Elections:** Phyllis Van Steenburgh, election committee chair, explained the election process. Anne King and Vickie Horan were appointed tellers. Election ballots were distributed and collected.

**Co-President’s Remarks:** Jeanne Williams-Bennett spoke to the membership, first explaining the history of RC 12 Co-Presidents. She thanked Kathlene Lyman for her efforts while our co-presidents dealt with health issues. Jeanne emphasized that it is a critical time in our union’s history. She encouraged us to stay strong and do as we did last fall in helping to defeat the Con-Con resolution; talk to each other and stay involved.

**Legislative Report:** Stacey Caruso-Sharpe thanked Jeanne Williams-Bennett for their long history of working together. She reported that the NYS Budget passed but APPR was pulled from the budget. Efforts are still being made to take away tying a student’s test scores to his/her file. Also, members must continue to fight for our rights…items which are being referred to as “entitlements” are “earned benefits”. Members were congratulated for their efforts in defeating the Con-Con resolution…never has something been defeated by such a large margin. Keep the Union strong! Stacey and Karen Wojcik-Hess attended the RA. There was a lengthy discussion on the Poor People’s Campaign. The campaign continues the work of Martin Luther King. Starting Mother’s Day 2018, there will be forty days of action to bring awareness to the cause. For example: 23 million people do not have enough to eat!

**Capital District NYSARA:** Karen Wojcik-Hess encouraged all to wear a “Strong Union” button and keep one in your pocket. NYSARA is campaigning hard for Universal health Care in NYS. The movie, “Now is the Time” is available to be shown. It will be shown in Cohoes and Clifton Park in June. See Karen to schedule a showing. A celebration for the anniversary of Medicare and Social Security will be held in July. Karen announced a meeting with Paul Tonko for August 14, 2018.

**Election Committee Report:** Phyllis Van Steenburgh announced the following results: President: Stacey Caruso-Sharpe; First Vice President: Kathlene Lyman; Second Vice President: Sandra Bliss; Treasurer: Dolores Talmadge; SRP Director: Susan Proctor; NYSUT Delegates: Jeanne Williams-Bennett and Kathlene Lyman; NYSUT Alternates: Sandra Bliss and Karen Wojcik-Hess. (Stacey Caruso-Sharpe is also
NYSUT Delegate; AFT Delegate: Stacey Caruso Sharpe; AFT Alternate: Sandra Bliss and Karen Wojcik-Hess

**StateWide:** Kathlene Lyman announced that the StateWide annual convention will be held October 9, 10 11, 2018 in Saratoga. She will attend.

**Social Committee Report:** Linda Zilka reported on the following future trips: Alaska and the Yukon (August 2018), Letchworth area (September 2018), West Point football game (November), Nova Scotia (2019), New Hampshire (2019) and perhaps two more day trips this year. Trip announcements are made at general membership meetings, by emails to those for whom we have email addresses, posted on the NYSUT RC 12 Website, and published in *The Outlook.*

**Webmaster and Outlook:** Carolyn Darkangelo will have the next issue of *The Outlook* ready in late June. She is always looking for pictures for the website and *The Outlook.* The online edition of *The Outlook* is longer than the published edition.

**Raffle:** Linda Zilka moved and Karen Wojcik-Hess seconded to donate the proceeds to the NYSUT Disaster Relief Fund and earmark them for Puerto Rico. The motion passed. Additional donations were accepted.

**Next General Membership Meeting:** October 9, 2018 at the Otesaga.

**Adjournment:** The business meeting was adjourned with thanks for the flexibility of the membership and for the cooperation of volunteers in the absence of Jennifer Shaad-Derby, our NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Kathlene Lyman*

---

**NYSUT RC 12 Regional Conference:**

Paul Webster spoke on the Poor People’s Campaign. Handouts, which detailed information and events, were distributed.

Paul Pecorale, NYSUT Second Vice President, spoke of the current pertinent issues, including the Janus Supreme Court case. Several handouts were provided including: “Our Voice, Our Union, Our Values; answers to your questions about pending changes for unions and union members” and NYSUT’s “Caregiving Guide”.

Clea Stagnitti and Will Gard, through the Albany Apple Store, led a workshop on ways to enhance photography on your cell phones and iPads.

A delicious lunch was enjoyed by all.