

## **NYSUT RC 12 – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Minutes of August 5, 2021 – Johnstown Holiday Inn**

**(Approved – November 18, 2021)**

**Call to Order:** President Stacey Caruso-Sharpe called the meeting to order at 9:45.

**Attendance:** Stacey Caruso-Sharpe, Carolyn Darkangelo, Jeanne Williams-Bennett, Margaret Dafeldecker, Jennifer Shaad-Derby, Maggie Bouck, Theresa Kovian, Kathy Lyman, Dolores Talmadge, Bev Alves. **Excused:** Cathy Picciocca, Sue Proctor.

**Absent:** Vicki McGowan-Horan

**President's Report:** Stacey

1. Kathy Lyman will take the minutes today.
2. BOCES Retiree Helen Neet wants to be involved. She is a strong union person and a strong social justice person. Stacey will invite her and Kathy will include her on the mailing list. Kathy moved and Margaret seconded the motion to accept Helen Neet as a director at large until the next elections. The motion passed.
3. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Retiree Councils: There are signs, napkins, pins, etc. available. We will have pins for everyone at a general membership meeting. Dolores and Stacey ordered them.
4. COVID-19 Variance: School districts are dealing with this as students and teachers return to school. The pandemic made the public aware of how hard a teacher works. Parents at some school districts (ex. Galway) are in an uproar over children wearing masks. Booster shots are becoming available. The position of AFT is that things should be done **safely**. Masks or no masks should be up to the local school district. Stacey had statistics on unvaccinated workers in several unions. In NYC over 40% of workers in unions (bus workers, police, etc.) are unvaccinated! Unions need to get their acts together. Still there is the question of what to do about teachers with pre-existing conditions.
5. Kate Mullany House: The Kate Mullany House was ready to open. A car crashed into the house causing substantial damage. American Labor Studies is working through insurance claims to repair the structural damage. They are once again fundraising. Theresa moved and Bev seconded that the proceeds of our September raffle go towards repairs at the Kate Mullany House and that RC 12 will supplement the raffle with an additional \$500. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Haven of Hope: This organization has been on our list to receive our help. Haven of Hope operates a farm in Fonda for homeless women and children to help them better themselves and their situations. Bev made a motion to donate \$100 to Haven of Hope. Margaret seconded. The motion passed. In addition, RC 12 will ask its members to donate personal care items by bringing them to the meeting at the Otesaga.
7. Stacey reminded us that since 2016, all teachers need to register with the State Ed Dept every 5 years in order to continue working.
8. Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid: As the anniversary of Social Security and Medicaid is upon us, the goal is to modernize and improve both. Some goals include: improve the ACA, negotiate drug prices, increase dental and vision, cap annual drug costs, and expand post-partum care. Congress will be writing budget bills to fund these. Soon there will be a zoom meeting on NYS Healthcare for America.

**New York Many Threads, One Fabric:** Bev is part of the committee to develop a diversity curriculum for New York State.

**First Vice-President:** Kathy, again, voiced the need to have contact information to local ED 12 presidents and local retiree presidents. A list of local that have retiree chapters would be helpful. It is frustrating to not be able to reach out to new retirees.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dolores

1. Dolores presented the treasurer's report dated August 5, 2021. It was accepted and will be filed for audit.
2. John Mazur will convene the Audit Committee. The audit will occur in September before the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>.
3. Dolores completed the IRS communication.
4. Dolores spoke on the budget for 2021-2022. Margaret moved that the budget for 2021-2022 be the same as the budget for 2020-2021. Theresa seconded. The motion passed. The budget will go before the general membership for approval.

**Secretary's Report:** Kathy Lyman for Cathy Picciocca.

1. Presented were the minutes of April 20, 2021, Board of Director's meeting. Margaret made the suggestion to include names of absentees and those excused. Bev moved and Therea seconded the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

2. Presented were the minutes of the May 12, 2021 General Membership Meeting. Margaret made the suggestion to include the last names of people in the minutes as we questioned which “Paula” had spoken. Kathy moved and Margaret seconded the motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

**Second Vice-President:** Bev gave an update on the situation with Governor Cuomo. She said that the NYS Constitution says that if a governor is under impeachment, the governor is side-lined. Many felt his resignation was inevitable.

**NYSUT Retiree Consultant:** Jennifer reported that the NYSUT Regional Conference and the Spring General Membership meeting will be held on May 12, 2022 at the Glen Sanders Mansion.

**Outlook/Website:** Carolyn stated that the deadline for the next OUTLOOK is August 23. She will need information about the meeting at the Otesaga. Kathy will write something about patient’s rights and Jeanne will write something about solar panels. If anyone has ideas for an article, give it to Carolyn or Theresa and someone will write it. Information for the website is always needed. Pictures are welcome, in landscape format.

**Social Committee:** Kathy and Dolores reported. The social committee will meet informally. No new trips are being planned at this point. There is room on the Michigan Trip. There are two tickets available for The Music Man.

**StateWide:** Kathy reported that the 2021 Convention to be held October 12, 13, 14 will be a zoom meeting. She suggested Marcus Harazin as a speaker for our September meeting. StateWide will celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2022.

**Meeting Dates:**

1. **September 30, 2021: General Membership Meeting, The Otesaga.** Jen will be the director in charge.
2. **November 18, 2021: Board of Directors,** Johnstown Holiday Inn
3. **January 11, 2022: Board of Directors,** zoom meeting
4. **March ?, 2022: General Membership Meeting,** place TBD.
5. **May 12, 2022: NYSUT Regional Conference/General Membership Meeting**

**Forming Retiree Chapters:** There was a big discussion about how to go about this. Sample language is need. We need a committee to explore this.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:59.

*Kathlen A. Lyman, acting secretary*