

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
2521 Riva Road, Suite L7
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MINUTES - Representative Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Russell Leone, at Severna Park High School, at 5:04 p.m.

The Association's Vision and Mission were read by Kaitlyn Day.

**ADOPTION OF ORDER
OF BUSINESS**

Upon a motion by Bob Silkworth, seconded by Rayon Mason, the Order of Business was approved with flexibility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Melissa Connelly, seconded by Jeff Turk, the Minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting were approved.

GUESTS

Candidates for MSEA/NEA - Jennifer Martin, running for MSEA Board of Director, addressed the group.

As more candidates arrive, we will stop the meeting for them to speak.

**CONCERNS COMMITTEES
& TSI BREAKOUTS**

Moved into Concerns Committees & TSI Breakouts at 5:12 p.m.

Neil Becker, running for MSEA Board of Director, addressed the group.

Heather Goodhart, running for MSEA Board of Director, addressed the group.

Joe Coughlin, running for MSEA Treasurer, addressed the group.

BYLAWS

Leona Puglia, Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee, announced that in the bags are two Proposed Bylaws Amendments on Article III - Membership and Article IV - Representative Assembly. A vote will be taken on the amendments.

The vote will be tabled until the Credentials Committee gets counts to make sure there is a quorum.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Bill Jones' Retirement Celebration - President Leone reported that Bill Jones retired over the summer and we are finally getting around to honor him. The retirement celebration will be held on January 11, 2020, at Michael's Eighth Ave.

School Visits - President Leone reported on the importance of school visits. It is really important for the TAAAC staff to come out to your school regularly so we can make sure we are listening to members. He asked Representatives to let TAAAC know when people are coming together for 10-Minute Meetings. TAAAC will come to support you.

President Leone stated that he can guest read, assist in small groups, see a special project or come before or after school to chat. He stated that he is not there to evaluate or observe and has zero impact on any evaluations.

Board of Education - New Officers - President Leone reported that the Board of Education has new officers. The new President is Michelle Corkadel and the new Vice President is Melissa Ellis. We have already had meetings with them.

President Leone reported that Kirwan is important to us. There seems to be some waffling on supporting Kirwan. We need to know that some Board members are fully behind Kirwan. It is important that we talk to Board members. TAAAC will be at the December 18 Board Meeting to testify. The link to email Board members is in the weekly update. Encourage your members to send emails and to add something personal.

President Leone reminded Representatives to tell people to put these events on their calendar. Budget Hearings will be held on January 7, at Old Mill High School, 6:30 p.m. and January 9, at Riva Road, 6:30 p.m. We want to fill the room with at least 600 people at Old Mill High School.

10-MINUTE MEETING

Gift cards were presented to Representatives for holding 10-Minute Meetings.

Moved into the 10-Minute Meeting at 6:13 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
REPORT**

Bargaining Environment/RA as Action Team - Executive Director, Ken Page reported that one of the mandates of the Board of Directors is to increasingly turn TAAAC into a member run organization. The most important thing your union does is negotiate fair terms in your contract. This is exhausting to do this every year. We need to come together because it is tough and there are things we need to fight against. We got to do a lot of work. He reported that in the bags is the bulletin "At the Table" for you to go back to your locations to share with your co-workers.

**BYLAWS - ACTION ON
PROPOSED AMENDMENT
CONTINUED**

Leona Puglia, Chairperson of the Bylaws Committee, announced that this body needs to take a vote on the Proposed Bylaw Amendment #1, Article III - Membership and Proposed Bylaw Amendment #2, Article IV - Representative Assembly.

It was moved by Allison Heintz, seconded by the Board of Directors, to support an amendment to the new Article III - Membership, Section 11, to read "Final ratification of the Negotiated Agreement shall be determined on the basis of an electronic vote by Association members." The motion was approved.

A vote was taken and passed to extend the meeting beyond 7:00 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
REPORT CONTINUED**

Negotiations Update - Tami Thumbtzen reported on the status of bargaining. The Negotiating Committee meets in the evening after the Negotiating Team.

Advocacy - None

MSEA Legislative Priorities - President Leone reported that the priority is Kirwan. More information to come.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Credentials - The Credentials Committee reported that 76 Representatives were in attendance, which is 41% of the total Representatives, and 57 Units were represented, which is 39% of the total Units.

Government Relations - Richard Benfer reported that we are planning the Legislative Breakfast for Saturday, January 4, 9:00 a.m., at Union Jack's in Annapolis.

Membership - Chris Lerch, Chairperson of the Membership Committee, reported that this Friday, December 13, at 3:30 p.m., is The Holiday Social Hour, at The Bank Shot Bar and Grille. He reminded Representatives to sign up nonmembers by December 31, 2019, to receive \$100 and to also complete tickets for the end of the year drawing.

Minority Affairs - In the bags is the Annual Mills/King Award Nominations form. Submit nominations by Friday, January 31, 2020.

President Leone reported that the Bylaw Amendment did pass, 56-Yes and 14-No.

MEMBERS' CONCERNS

If you have a concern, please complete the Member Concerns Form. If there is an urgency to your concern, call your UniServ. Member Concerns will be reviewed and answered by your UniServ. Member Concerns Handout will be distributed, with name and school removed, in the RA bags.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Leone announced that if you bring donations for SPAN, you receive additional entries into our door raffle.

Wendy Gibson announced that the Martin Luther King Breakfast will be held on January 18, 2020, at the Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport. Great things are in store for those that come.

Next RA Meeting - January 8, 2020, at Severna Park Middle School.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted:



Tamara Thumbtzen, Secretary-Treasurer

Approved:



Russell Leone, President

Minutes approved at ARC meeting January 8, 2020
(Date)

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