

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

2521 Riva Road, Suite L7
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MINUTES - Representative Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, November 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

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

The Association's Vision and Mission were read by Allison Brewer.

**ADOPTION OF ORDER
OF BUSINESS**

Upon a motion by Melissa Connelly, seconded by Michele Shrum, the Order of Business was approved with flexibility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Marvis Surles, seconded by Colleen Johnson, the Minutes of the October 10, 2019 meeting were approved.

GUESTS

Erika Strauss Chavarria, running for reelection to the NEA Board of Directors, addressed the group.

Katie Zawodny, from the Anne Arundel County Libraries, discussed programs offered to teachers and students.

Mike Markowitz, addressed the group concerning long-term care insurance.

CONCERNS COMMITTEES

Moved into Concerns Committees at 5:24 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Nancy Davidson, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee, announced that there are a number of elections coming up for President, Vice-President, Board of Directors (5 seats), NEA Delegate (34 seats), and MSEA Delegate (50 seats) that will all be held online. The big change is that all elections will be held at the same time. The nominations form in the TAAAC Action Report does not have a place to check for MSEA Delegate and NEA Delegate, so there is another nominations form in the bags. Nominations forms must be received by Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

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. Review the amendments and there will be an opportunity for questions at the next Representative Assembly before the vote.

10-MINUTE MEETING

Elizabeth Ruddy presented gift cards to Representatives for holding 10-Minute Meetings.

Moved into the 10-Minute Meeting at 5:51 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Teacher of the State Board of Education - President Leone reported that the MSEA endorsed teacher running for the position on the State Board of Education is Rachel McCusker, a former Teacher of the Year in Carroll County. He stated that we have two Anne Arundel County teachers that have put their name in for the position. They missed the deadline for the endorsement process and as of today, we have not heard from those candidates. Had any of these people come to me early on, we could have helped them. He stated that he has to assume that they are not looking for TAAAC's endorsement.

Board of Education Organizing Events - Budget Hearings - President Leone asked 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 at Old Mill High School.

Building Representative Retreat - President Leone reported that there were 25 participants that attended the Building Representative Retreat. He stated that they spent a day and a half together going over the responsibilities of what they do back at their schools. Marcy Hess and Allison Braford shared their positive experience at the retreat.

Importance of Communication - President Leone reported on the importance of communication. He stated that we have big fights, but we have small fights also. TAAAC does not get the memos that are going out to teachers, so don't assume that we saw them. Pick up the phone and call or send emails.

The sooner we can address it, the sooner we can get it resolved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

President Leone introduced our Executive Director, Kenneth Page. He stated that TAAAC spent several months on the search. He stated that Kenneth comes with a strong union background. He has worked with other unions that have gone through similar situations as us. He has jumped in with both feet and has done his homework.

Kenneth Page thanked the Representatives and stated that he looks forward to meeting and working with all of them.

Michelle Alexander, MSEA Board of Director candidate, addressed the group.

Negotiations - Keith Wright reported on the status of negotiations. He stated that the next session will be tomorrow. The newly formed Negotiating Committee will meet on Thursday, November 21, 2019.

Advocacy - Mark Beytin reviewed the kinds of cases being handled at the TAAAC office. He also stated that there is a great concern on the number of teachers that are on conditional contracts. He stated that TAAAC is offering a membership incentive right now if you get a new member, you get \$100.00. Next month a list will go out so that these people can be targeted. We need you to turn these people into members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Credentials - Robin Murray reported that 84 Representatives were in attendance, which is 47% of the total Representatives, and 55 Units were represented, which is 37% of the total Units.

Government Relations - President Leone reported that the next meeting will be November 25, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. at the TAAAC office.

IPD - President Leone reported that there are a good number of people registered for the Trauma Informed Instruction

Workshop. He stated that we would love to have more people on the committee. We would love to have some special educators, and would like to have a special education focused workshop.

Membership - Chris Lerch, Chairperson of the Membership Committee, reported that the next meeting will be on Thursday, November 21, at 4:30 p.m. at the TAAAC office. The first social will be held on December 13, 2019. A flyer will be coming soon. He reminded Representatives to fill out a ticket for the end of the year drawing.

Minority Affairs - Keith Wright reported that the Annual Mills/King Award ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020. Literature for nominations will be going out soon.

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

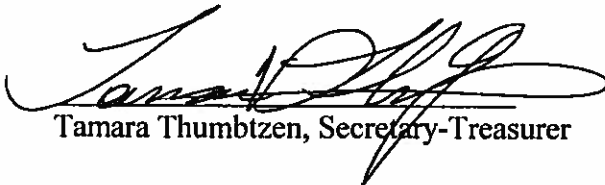
Next RA Meeting - December 11, 2019, at Severna Park High School.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:


Tamara Thumbtzen, Secretary-Treasurer


Russell Leone, President

Minutes approved at ARC meeting December 11, 2019
(Date)