

PEF Retirees Chapter 2 Meeting Minutes
4/10/2025 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at Waters Clubhouse & Catering
Bath Country Club, 330 May St., Bath, NY. 14810

Members Involved:

Jim Carr, Mary Carr, Pam Fraboni, Noah Fraboni, Jim Kirk, Scott Wood, Ellen Wood, Gilda Murdock, Joan Caruso-LaVerde, Fred Daniels, Marg Daniels, Edith Back, Susan Davis, Sue Marosek, Jane Snyder, Anne Habeeb, Terry Lewis, George Korseppa, Randy VanDerzee, Robert Thorn, Pearl Jordan, Pepi Leids, Margaret Butheverit, Wyant Kiefer, Norman Hultzman, Sherry Hultzman, Barbara Russell, Joyce Carson, Jane Kissen, Ellen Benedict, Kathy Baltzell, Liz Atwood, Louis Adessa, Susan Hoskins, Jackie Eakin, Ron Eakin, Diane Marshall, Fran Cerio, Sharon Seeley, Sharon Clarke, Diane Bowers.

Welcome Remarks from Jim Carr, Chapter 2 President with Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Carr led members in a moment of silence remembering those we worked with, retirees and retiree losses.

Welcome two new members and new attendees. Currently there are 300 members in our chapter. Any guest who retired from state service and state pension can join PEF retirees.

President's Report:

Jim went over PEF board elections. Vacancy currently for second Vice President. Scott Wood agreed and nominated to the position today.

On Tuesday, April 15, 2025, Tax Day, local activist groups in coordination with Citizens Action of New York will be holding a press conference at noon in front of Nick Langworthy's Office in Corning. Later on, the same day, Citations for a better Southern Tier is hosting a Congressional Town Hall at the Steel Workers Hall in Corning at 6:00 p.m. Congressman Nick Langworthy has received a formal invitation. The focus is on district activity and is an opportunity to educate constituents, local and state lawmakers, patients, providers and other key audiences about the impact of the GOP plan. Local pressure from constituents and key stakeholders in the state is the central tactic to stopping lawmakers from gutting healthcare and shifting blame and responsibility. Health Care for America Now Educational Fund (HCANEF) is organizing activities in key targeted districts of GOP members on the proposed bill to slash healthcare and give tax breaks to the rich between now and Labor Day.

Health Care in America Now (HCAN) plans to work with partners to release reports in the districts through press events, and will work with groups and provide materials, talking points and coordination with key allies and strategic support.

PEF and state retirees can act by talking to friends and neighbors about social security and federal budget cuts. Horseheads and Poughkeepsie social security offices are slated to be closed, Per Nick Langworthy, the Horseheads office is not closing - the hearing room only is slated to be closed, Need to get the word out in a nonpartisan way. Monthly calls to congressional representatives also would be helpful.

PEF retire meetings will tentatively be planned four times yearly. Currently scheduled meetings include Ginny Lee Cafe, Lodi, NY scheduled for Thursday 8/7/2025 at 11:30 a.m. and Thursday 10/16/2025 at 11:30 a.m.

Jim reported that he sat in on with AFT in January including issues related to federal funding and social security.

PEF members can go to the web site and sign up for electronic Monday alerts including elections. The web site also provides step-by-step directions for retirees when loved ones pass, The site includes a power point and information about becoming a PEF retiree member.

Letters are provided on the hand-out table for members to complete/sign. Comments can be included on the letter by retirees if interested. The letter addresses concerns to elected representatives (Assemblyman Philip Parmesan and Tom O'mara NYS Senator). Concerns included in the letter request assistance with maintaining Medicare reimbursement for some state retirees. The budget proposal would cease reimbursement for higher income state retirees (Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount - IRMAA).

Treasurer's Report:

Pam Fraboni reported on Chapter 21 current finances. Pam reviewed upcoming PEF retiree meetings/luncheons.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment:

Jim recommended that PEF retiree members review what AFT is doing regarding federal funding.

The meeting was followed by a luncheon and social hour.