

**NEW YORK STATE Retiree Chapter 09 Officers:**

**Public Employees Federation President: Patrick McLaughlin**

**Region 09 Retirees Vice Pres: Barbara Weber**

**1168-70 Troy Schenectady Rd Vice President: none**

**PO Box 12414 Secretary: Mary Jones**

 **Treasurer: Diane Conklin**

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 **PEF CHAPTER 9 RETIREES’ MEETING MINUTES**

 **Best Western Plus Hotel; at “The Venue”**

 **Washington St. Kingston, NY**

 **May 24, 2022, at 12 noon for all 7 counties**

 **Attendance: 60 retirees; 2 guests; 17 no shows.**

 **2 paying nonmembers**

 **Agenda:**

**A Buffet lunch was served at 12:30 after Patrick greeted the retirees after 2 ½ years.**

**The meeting was called to order with a Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence at 1:20 pm.

President’s Remarks- The President, Patrick McLaughlin, introduced the current officers and announced the vacancies for the upcoming election. Don Morgenstern was introduced and conducted the election of officers. The results are as follows.**

**Election Of Chapter 9 Officers:**

**Patrick was nominated for President by Ron Manuli; it was seconded, all were in favor, and none opposed. Mary Jones was nominated for secretary by Ron Manuli; it was seconded, all were in favor with none opposed. Tom Ryan was nominated for VP on the east side by Mary Jones, he accepted the nomination, all were in favor, and none opposed. Diane Conklin nominated Vivian Street for VP on the west side, it was seconded, she accepted, all were in favor, and none opposed. Diane Conklin was nominated for Treasurer by Vivian Street and seconded, all were in favor, and none opposed’. Officers will serve for 2 years, and the positions are effective immediately.**

**Guest Speaker: Don Morgenstern then spoke to the retirees regarding the importance of contributing to COPE which stands for Committee on Political Education. He informed the retirees of several current important issues that thru COPE monies, we are fighting for…i.e., Medicare including dental and vision coverage: Medicare regulating drug costs for seniors; changing how COLA is calculated yearly so seniors receive more realistic supplements. He explained how the COPE monies are administered by SEIU and AFT to fight for our interests. Currently, we have 20,000 members.**

**Samantha Kalbfliesh from Members Benefits explained that members' benefits for retirees are carefully chosen and are added to and deleted accordingly every year. The Legal plan is 80.00/ yr. and is a great deal for all it provides. Discount movie tickets, Gift cards and special event discounts are still being offered. She announced that 3 Family days are being held this summer throughout the state for a rate of 20.00 pp which covers parking, admission, and a free lunch. They have discounted tickets for Legoland, Bethel Woods and Liberty Travel is also offering travel discounts.**

**Dennis Ullman, a psychologist from Nuvance at Putnam Hospital, announced that they were seeking per diem staff for a crisis intervention team in their emergency dept. They must have a NYS license to practice and be able to evaluate Pts. and develop and write treatment and discharge plans. Pay is 7.50/hr. on call and approximately 40/hr. when working. You are paid for a minimum of 3 ¾ hr., if called in.**

**Secretary’s Report- The minutes from the previous meeting were handed out to all the retirees. A motion was made by Ron Manuli to accept the minutes as written and seconded by Barbara Weber.

Treasurer’s Report - Diane Conklin reported we currently have a balance of 22,744.67 not including the bill for the luncheon today. In 2020, our balance was $18,919.74. We received from PEF, $4,424.93, for a bank balance of 23,244.67, for 2021. Diane was also able to get the 13.00 per month bank maintenance fees removed. There were several small expenses this year, leaving us currently with a balance of 22,744.67.**

**Committee Reports: none**

**Old Business- Retirees were reminded of the yearly dues increase from 18.00 to 36.00 in 2019. First year retirees’ membership dues are free and paid by PEF. The Communicator is digital and online at PEF.org. Attendees were reminded that they are automatically members of NYSARA which puts out an online weekly update on current happenings.**

**New Business- Patrick announced that we currently have 1700 PEF retirees in Chapter 9 within our 7 counties. He asked attendees to fill out the “comment” handout and write down their email address, as he would like to communicate with as many chapter members as possible. He has only 350 email addresses from chapter 9 members while PEF has 1500. However, PEF cannot share those addresses with him. That's why it is imperative that you write your personal email address on the form. He would like to have a 2-way conversation with all our members and will be sending out a newsletter, which he hopes to get to as many people as possible. He announced they hope to have the next luncheon meeting for Rockland Ct. and surrounding counties in mid-August and another luncheon for Westchester in late October. A short meeting with the newly elected officers will be held following this.**

 **Patrick conducted a raffle of approximately 20 PEF hats to members present.**

**A motion to adjourn was made at 2:45pm, seconded and carried.**

**Respectively submitted:
Mary Jones
Secretary**