



NEW YORK STATE
Public Employees Federation
Region 8 Retirees
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President: Karen Danish
Vice Pres.: Robert Harms
Secretary: Janet Messina
Treasurer: Alice Wiley

**PEF REGION 8 RETIREES
MEETING 11/07/2022**

Accept the agenda for 11/7/22 meeting
Accept the minutes from the meeting of 10/3/22

President's Remarks

**VETERANS DAY is 11/11/1955. Please know that the gift you've given us-
OUR FREEDOM- is the most cherished gift of all. We will never forget what
you've done for us and for our country. Thank You**

ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK POST- This change was effectuated as part of the collective bargaining agreement that was ratified between the members of CSEA and the Executive. More specifically, CSEA agreed to changes in out-of-network reimbursement which will be based on 275% of the Medicare allowance effective July 1, 2023. These changes do not impact PEF at this time and no discussions on a successor agreement between PEF and the State of New York have taken place to date.

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT- Reminder- you will be getting calls and literature from Medicare programs trying to sell you, their plan. IF you choose to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan you will lose your NYSHIP participation and that also includes your sick leave offset if you had one. Your plan information will come from NYS Civil Service or NYSHIP

CDPHP- RX for Less- no longer using CVS since they would not agree to participate in the drug lowering program. Starts 1/1/2023. They are also in negotiations with Trinity Health/St. Peters Partners and you many have gotten letters. They are hoping to reach a settlement by 1/1/2023.

EMBLEM HEALTH/GHI- many dentists are leaving since the reimbursement rates have not been increased since the 80's. PEF has asked for an RFP by the state to investigate other plans and has been talking to GHI to make improvements. Comptroller DiNapoli is also doing an audit of Emblem Health.

NO Show/Call and NO response One item choice some no meat options some with. This is what keeps our costs down. It is only a few hours so please keep that in mind and if you have health issues or food issues please consider eating before coming or when you get home after the meeting.

Legislative Updates

COLA bill – will be resubmitted as part of the 1/2023 session
Health Care Diminishment Bill- will be resubmitted as part of the 1/2023 session. We are awaiting new numbers for the 2023 legislative session.

Karen urged members to call the Governor to ask the Skilled Nursing Bill (S.9347/ A. 10425) which passed by both houses be signed by the governor..

Secretary Report- 200 RSVP'd for today's meeting There is no signup sheet for the Dec Meeting. You must buy a ticket to attend the December holiday luncheon. There is no sign up for February 2023. You will have to call or email Paula Veteramo to make a reservation after the new year. Tickets are on sale for the December Holiday Lunch Wed 12/14- Members \$20 Guests \$30 RSVP with check in hand by COB 12/7/2022 Chicken Parmigiana, Roast Sirloin of Beef, Baked Salmon.

Treasurers Report- We have had no expenses for July, August, or September. In October we had the meeting expense only. The current balance before today's expenses is: \$3604.99 but we have quarterly rebates going into our account this week.

BUDGET- 12/31/2022 next year's budget is due. We were able to have a full year of meetings and social event in 2022 and can now do an accurate budget. We know we have spent over the projected budget form prior years but had the cushion from the COVID year and no meetings. We must belt tighten and look for ways to cut expenses to now stay within out projected budget.

***NO dessert, *changing the constitution from holding 6 meetings a year to quarterly or up to 6 meetings depending on budget restrictions *Limiting to 150 we now budget for 200 * charging to attend meetings* looking at lower cost food options are all on the table for the executive committee to consider.**

Guest Speaker- Larry Roth- Railroad Workers United and Solutionary Rail- Larry spoke briefly on what/who they were and the possible impending rail strike and how it could impact us. He stated America has a problem: we are addicted to fossil fuels and what changes would need to be made to accomplish it. He talked about some ideas that could help this situation

Motion to adjourn at 2:00 pm was made seconded and carried.