



RETIREES

NASSAU SUFFOLK PEF RETIREES
CHAPTER 12, AFL-CIO
NEW YORK WORKS BECAUSE WE DID!
LONG ISLAND PEF REGION 12 OFFICE
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**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2023**

Sign in. Handouts available. Chapter President, M Kopkin, welcomed us to the first meeting of the new year at this office at 12:12 p.m. Recommended a change in the agenda order. Motioned, R Souto, to move up the video “Let every Voice”, seconded by J Allen. Voted “yea”. Motion passed.

Agenda:

1. Pledge of Allegiance – J Allen
2. New Year blessing and food blessing – I Blanding
3. “Balm of Gilead” – please stand. “Let every voice” - Sergeant at Arms, I Blanding. Lunch and networking
4. Minutes of last General Membership Meeting – M E Gaines
5. Finance Report by Treasurer J Koferl
6. President’s Report by M Kopkin
7. Salute to Martin Luther King Jr – N King
8. Holiday Party/Basket Committee Report – M Bensing
9. Political update – D Pagel/R Souto
10. Member issues/concerns

Pledge of Allegiance – J Allen.

Prayer and Blessing – I Blanding.

Video “Balm of Gilead” sing while standing “Let every voice”. Lunch under auspices of D Pagel and O Souto. Sergeant at Arms, I Blanding, will direct the members for lunch.

Minutes of General Membership Meeting November 16, 2022, read by M E Gaines. Motion to accept by M Routh, seconded by D Hernandez. Voted “yea”. Motion passed.

Finance Report by Treasurer J Koferl. Organizational Savings \$51.19. Checking \$7,207.36 = \$7258.55. Meal cost \$63.78 = \$7,194.77. N King motion to accept the report. Second B Lanieri. N King suggested that we applaud the treasurer’s outstanding performance. We agreed. Applauded. Voted “yea”. Motion passed. Question posed about Dr King’s luncheon per COVID-19 pandemic and lack of current information. Clarity provided by others.

Results – 50/50 raffle under auspices D Hernandez. Winner donated the cash prize to the Memorial Scholarship. Thank you (M.R.) very much.

President's Report – M Kopkin. Bills floating in Albany involving retirees requires new sponsors (change due to the 2022 mid term elections). M Routi and M Kopkin offered to contact Robert Jackson.

Salute Dr. Martin King Jr – N King. Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike handout provided. Covered the highlights of Feb 12, 1968 – April 16, 1968. Remember the union fight is ongoing.

D Pagel shared US Government issued memorabilia (President Obama, Dr and Mrs. King, Rosa Parks, Jack R Robinson, and Negro Baseball league. Presented also “History with Harry” by Harry Swanson from Thursday, January 19, 2023, Martin Luther King Jr, 1929 – 1968 published by messenger papers Inc. comments: D Dantuon0 and Rosa Parks practiced yoga and was a vegetarian. Mrs. Coretta Scott King was a vegetarian. B Lanieri recommended “Hidden Figures” based upon lives of influential women of color.

Holiday Party Basket Committee Report. M Bensin handout “2023 PEF Holiday Party Baset List”. Chinese auction also for boat ride June 2023. Does anyone have further suggestions? She thanked the members for cash donations, the anonymous donations, and the successful endeavor. Comment from members mostly favorable.

Political updates – D Pagel/R Souto. Controversy of George Santos.

Member issues/concerns – construction at the PEF Office – need more office space for various employees (nurse region coordinator, NYS PEF President, organizer, field representatives). More offices would decrease the meeting area capacity for the Retirees and active PEF members. As Retirees how do we handle the situation? Options – decrease the number of General membership meetings, increase price of lunch; keep canvassing for reasonable rents, room sufficient to accommodate members, allow outside food, check out union places. Executive Board Members will continue to work on the issues. Update on nurses at University Hospital at Stonybrook by N Higgins – salary, overtime, and workload.

Motion to adjourn – N King, seconded by D Hernandez. Voted “yea” unanimously. Adjourned 2:01 p.m. Officers 3, attended 30, guests 1.

Respectfully submitted in unity

M E Gaines