**PEF Region 5 Retirees Meeting
March 27, 2023**

 Seventy five people, 65 members, seven guests, and seven paid guests attended the PEF Retirees meeting at the PEF Office in Vestal, NY.

Joe Kost, Treasurer, gave the treasurers report.

Allan Hochberg, President, gave a detailed account of events related to passage of the Health Care bill to provide extended coverage for nursing home stays for PEF retirees and the COLA pension bill.  He noted that both the assembly and house had passed a bill for nursing care health care reimbursement, but it was vetoed by Governor Hochul due to lack of a funding source. He said the expense of the COLA bill is the largest obstacle to passage. Allan encouraged members to join RPEA as it provides excellent information with many benefits and is only $30/year. He also encouraged members to visit the PEF website at [www.pef.org](http://www.pef.org) as it is substantially updated with information on benefits and meeting minutes. Only several people said they had been visiting the site.

Samantha Kalbfliesh gave a detailed talk on the PEF membership benefits program covering virtually all benefits; such as: Dental and Vision plan, Stacey Braun Financial Services, Defensive Driving courses, check later to update Defensive driving, Sun Life group, hearing aid benefits etc.  She suggested going to [www.pefmbp.com](http://www.pefmbp.com) for more information. Many questions were asked during Allan’s and Samantha’s talk.

Many people liked the food with diverse Italian entrees very much.