

PPSPERA Fall Membership Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 2013
Westside Community Center
9:30 am

Board Members in Attendance: Gerry Olvey, Charlotte Brummer, John Kerr, June George, Karen Hart, Terri Stevens, Alan Rasmussen, Sandy Patton, Meredith Jobe, Roger Loudon, Judy McCormick, Elaine Naleski, Barbara Watt, Peggy Gardner, Terry Alley, Jennifer Alley, Joyce Schmaltz

Absent: LuAnn Long, Joe Morin, Bud Lehmkuhl, Naomi Lehmkuhl.

Welcome: Co-president, Gerry Olvey welcomed the group of 37 people including guest Nancy Carlson, CSPERA Outreach Chair and Kelly Hardy from Kaiser Permanente. The Alleys were introduced as the new members of the board who will be the Pre-retirement Chairs.

Brunch was then served.

The guest speaker, Lynea Hansen, was introduced by Sandy Patton, state president of CSPERA. Sandy noted that Lynea works for the Coalition for Secure/PERA. Lynea spoke about how the recent election affected PERA and about the possible upcoming legislative issues that may affect PERA. Presently Secure/PERA is analyzing the results of the political races and the defeat of Proposition 66 to try to figure out what the voters are telling the coalition and us. In any case there is a lot of work to do.

Lynea spoke of five enemies of PERA.

1. Walker Stapleton
2. The Pew Trust
3. The Arnold Foundation
4. Colorado Succeeds
5. Education Reformers

Each of these entities is working to change PERA if not destroy it. Ideas from these groups will show up in legislation in the future. We need to be on the alert for this legislation and be willing to help fight it.

Lynea urged each of us to help educate the public about who PERA is and what it does to help the citizens of Colorado. People need to put a face on who PERA is. Lynea spoke of some talking points:

1. Senate Bill 1 is working. The unfunded liability has been reduced by \$9 billion in 3 years.
2. 90% of the burden for that liability was shouldered by PERA retirees.
3. Solutions offered by groups seem to be one size fits all.
4. Pensions are recession-proof.

The coalition is working on two projects. One is grassroots spreading the word in order to put a face on PERA. A second idea is to go after a national level retirement comparable to PERA for everyone and take away pension envy.

Expect between six and eight bills to be introduced into the legislature. There will probably be another iteration of those defeated previously. Putting voices together is helpful in defeating these bills. E-mail is very powerful. Encourage people to get on the Secure/PERA website and to keep up to date on what's happening.

CSPERA Updates: Sandy Patton announced that Elaine Naleski is the new Communications Chair on the CSPERA Board. She reported that the CSPERA Board is working on a branding campaign, a strategic plan, an invoicing program, and an Outreach program. Help will be needed from the locals to accomplish some of the programs specifically outreach. Sandy then introduced Nancy Carlson who is the Outreach Chair for CSPERA. Nancy urged each person in attendance to become a CSPERA member if they were not already and then to urge someone else to become a member as well. Many members are needed if the grassroots effort is to work. Nancy also urged people to send their volunteer hours to CSPERA as that is used as information to the legislature.

Closing Remarks: Gerry thanked the guests, introduced the PPSPERA Board members, reminded people to send their volunteer hours to Roger Loudon. The newsletter will be out January 1st.

WINTER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: February 13, 2013 at Westside Community Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted;
Joyce Schmaltz
Secretary