

NEA Retired Annual Meeting

June 23-24, 2021

Day 2

NEA Retired President Sarah Borgman welcomed delegates back to the Retired Annual Meeting and introduced Jack Tucker, IL, former state retired president (via video) to present another PAC ad featuring why he gives so generously to the NEA Fund.

Following the ad President Borgman reminded delegates that the NEA Standards of Conduct apply to today's meeting, the same as the previous day. This could be found on the NEA Retired meeting webpage at <https://nea.org/RetiredRAMInfo.com>.

Elections Chair Steve Gorrie returned to the screen to give the day's current credential report. The number in attendance as of 1:30 indicated 318 delegates were registered and 250 were in attendance. A quorum for the meeting is a majority of those registered delegates. A quorum existed.

The NEA Executive officers were introduced at this time: NEA President Pringle, Vice President Moss, and Secretary Treasurer, Noel Candelaria. President Borgman mentioned that this was the first time in six years that all three executive officers were able to be in attendance at the same time. She then proposed three questions and asked each in turn to respond:

1. Today we hopefully will adopt our first ever vision statement and a new mission statement. What would be your vision and mission statement for NEA Retired?
2. On July 4 we will celebrate our 38th birthday. Where do you see NEA Retired in another 38 years?
3. NEA Retired desperately needs more visibility in every aspect of NEA. What can you do to help put that in place?

Each officer gave brief remarks. At this point NEA Retired members were given the opportunity to ask questions of the three officers. Jim Duffy, IL; Ross Dill, IL; and Marc Sternberger, CA offered specific questions. Pres. Sarah then thanked the officers for their participation.

At this point in the program a video of those candidates running for the NEA Executive Committee was shown.

Following the video, Sarah presented the prestigious NEA Retired Distinguished Service Award. She first thanked the selection committee consisting of Tom Wellman, NV; Gloria Brown, CT; Anita Gibson, AL and Orval Garrison, CA.

Because the meeting was held virtually, it was necessary to notify the recipient before the meeting and a video was made during that presentation. The video was shown with the recipient, Walter Musterman, MN and his acceptance remarks. Walt was also asked to read the NEA Mission statement at the NEA Representative Assembly.

Alen Ritchie was introduced via video to present information and challenges related to the Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund as well as introduce the recipients of the 2021 scholarships. The winners were Will Crawford, University of Tennessee and Tatiana Oney, a junior at Collin College in Texas. The next was Hannah St. Clair, University of Oregon sophomore; senior Kelsey Zetzel from Butler University, IN, and senior Madeline Burk, University of Oregon who was also a recipient last year. Madeline then brought remarks on behalf of all winners.

Alen Ritchie concluded his remarks with a challenge for everyone to give \$31.25 to reach the \$12,500 needed to cover these scholarships. This can be done at donatekinnaman.com.

A brief break was taken and a video of the 2019 Annual Meeting was shown.

Following the break President Borgman introduced Barbara Matteson, former NEA Retired President and current member of the NEA Retired Fundraising Committee who brought a video challenge to delegates about her experience and knowledge in giving to the NEA Fund.

The procedures for candidates who had filed for NEA Retired Office were then given the opportunity to speak to the delegates. Steve Gorrie, Elections Chair reviewed the documents related to officer elections. He also introduced Fred and Patti Hester who assisted in timing speeches. Steve also reviewed procedures for voting which would again use the 3 envelope system and be a secret mail-in ballot monitored by True Ballot, a service NEA has used.

Mr. Gorrie then read the list of candidates who filed for office in the order drawn for speaking and for position on the ballot as follows:

Secretary---two candidates have filed to run for one position

Marilyn Warner, FL

Partrick Crabtree, AL

NEA Retired Executive Committee---three candidates filed for two seats

Meg Gruber, VA

Lynda Wolf Smith, GA

Janice Poirier, FL

NEA Board of Directors---four candidates have filed to run for two seats

Cliff Fukuda, HI

Felecia Hampshire, FL

Anita Gibson, AL

Barbara Schram, MI

NEA Board of Directors alternate---two candidates for one position

Janis Eggert, OR

Jante Kilgus, IL

Each candidate then spoke via videos and for the official time allotted.

Pres. Borgman thanked Steve Gorrie for his capable work in seeing that elections were fair and accurately conducted.

Following a ten minute break Elizabeth Caples, KY, presented a video on the importance of supporting the NEA Fund.

President Borgman then called on Linda McCrary to share the results of the by-laws voting. All by-laws passed by majority vote. The following vote counts reflect the results of the secret ballot:

Article III. F Objectives: 12 nay and 281 yea

Article III. G: 10 nay and 283 yea

Article VII, Section 4, B Duties: 43 nay and 250 yea

Article XI, Section 3, Eligibility: 13 nay and 279 yea

Article XII, Section 4 Meeting Participation: 27 no and 265 yea

Article XIII, Section 2, Deadlines: 12 nay and 278 yea

Article XIV Parliamentary Authority: 13 no and 279 yea

Linda McCrary went on to explain the Guidelines for New Business Items. She reminded delegates that items must be specific and able to be accomplished within one year. These were adopted without objection.

NBI 1 was presented by Tom Wellman, NV. "I move that the NEA Retired members support the passage of NEA Bylaw Amendment #2". (This was in relation to reduced dues for NEA ESP members.) Motion was seconded by Anita Gibson, AL. Mr. Wellman spoke in support of his motion. Debate was called for, conducted, and closed. The vote was called for and the motion passed with 220 yes votes and 22 no votes.

Ms. McCrary then presented on behalf of the NEA Retired Executive Council the Mission and Vision Statements as follows:

Mission: NEA Retired is dedicated to promoting secure retirement with dignity, advancing equitable and quality public education, and advocating for human, civil, and economic rights for all.

Vision: The vision of NEA Retired is to become the preeminent voice for retired members while strengthening NEA.

Although no second was needed, the motion was seconded by Ross Dill to show support.

Debate was open and a vote of support was taken with 206 yes votes and 29 no votes. The motion passed.

President Sarah thanked Linda for her diligent work.

Steve Gorrie was called on for the final Credentials Report. He reported that of the 318 registered delegates, 295 were present.

Dan Rudd, MI, out-going NEA Retired Secretary for three years was recognized for his service as was Alen Richie, out-going NEA Retired Council member who served for six years and brought the Jack Kinnaman Fund Scholarship work into modern times and practices. As his final responsibility, Alen gave an update of funds collected as of this time in the meeting of \$4526.

Jean Dobashi, Chair of the NEA PAC Fund-raising Committee also gave a challenge for The NEA Fund. She reminded delegates that the virtual auction would end on the following day but funds are needed all year round. She urged members to visit the website and sign on for monthly donations. Mrs. Dobashi thanked her committee and delegates for their generous giving, and gave an update of \$18,197 collected at this time.

President Borgman then gave delegates the opportunity for points of personal privilege. Several offered thanks related to their campaigns and other activities. Some announced the intent to run for office in 2022.

Borgman thanked staff who had assisted in this year's meeting and to the many participants. She then brought the meeting to a close and adjourned.