



## **NEA-RETIRED ANNUAL MEETING**

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**JUNE 29-30, 2022**

### **Wednesday, June 29**

#### **Attendance**

334 delegates were eligible to vote; 316 delegates were present. A quorum was reached.  
(Preliminary report given by Steve Gorrie, Elections Chair)

The meeting was called to order by the NEA-Retired President, Sarah Borgman, at 10:41 AM CST.

#### **Speakers:**

Sarah Borgman, NEA-Retired President

Princess Moss, NEA Vice-President

Jim Duffy, IEA/NEA Retired President, IL

Kathy Griffin, Illinois Education Association, President

Becky Pringle, NEA President

#### **Reports:**

Steve Gorrie, NEA-Retired Elections Chair, Preliminary Credentials Report

Jean Dobashi, NEA-Retired Vice-President, PAC Fundraising Co-Chair

Marilyn Warner, NEA-Retired Secretary, PAC Fundraising Co-Chair

JoAnn Smith-Mashburn, NEA-Retired Executive Council, Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund

### **Opening; Introductory Presentations**

Land Acknowledgement - Gary McGrane, Maine Education Association-Retired, President

Pledge of Allegiance – Michael Priser, NEA/FEA (Federal), President

National Anthem – Robert Rodriguez (CA), NEA Executive Committee

Invocation – Anita Gibson (AL), NEA-Retired NEA Board of Directors

NEA Standards of Conduct – Janice Poirier (FL), NEA-Retired Executive Council

Retired Vision and Missions Statement – Al Beamish (MI), MEA-Retired Member

Opening Remarks/Introductions – Sarah Borgman (IN), NEA-Retired President

Moment of Remembrance- Antoinette Smith, Georgia Retired Educators Association, President

Salute to Veterans – Noel Candelaria (TX), NEA Secretary/Treasurer

### **Adoption of Standing Rules**

Linda McCrary moved, on behalf of the NEA-Retired Executive Council, the adoption of the Standing Rules to the 2022 NEA-Retired meeting as posted on the NEA-Retired website. Passed.

### **Adoption of Agenda**

Sarah Borgman moved, on behalf of the NEA-Retired Executive Council, the adoption of the 2022 Retired Annual Meeting agenda. Passed.

### **Adoption of 2021 Retired Annual Meeting Minutes**

Marilyn Warner moved, on behalf of the NEA-Retired Executive Council, the adoption of the minutes of the 2021 Retired Annual Meeting. Passed.

### **Adoption of New Business Guidelines**

Linda McCrary moved, on behalf of the NEA-Retired Executive Council, the adoption of the new business guidelines as posted on the NEA-Retired website. Passed.

### **Adoption of Retired bylaws**

Linda McCrary moved, on behalf of the NEA-Retired Executive Council, the adoption of the procedures for amending the NEA-Retired bylaws as posted on the NEA-Retired website and emailed to the NEA-Retired delegates. Passed.

### **NEA-Retired Elections for NEA-Retired Resolutions Committee**

Steve Gorrie, NEA-Retired Elections Chair, reviewed the election rules and procedures for qualified candidates to the NEA-Retired Resolutions Committee elections. By virtue of the NEA-Retired Bylaws, since the number of qualified candidates equals the number of spaces available, the following are elected:

Ginny Bosse (WI)

Pat Jordan (CT)

Gary McGrane (ME)

Bobby J. Pierson (AL)

Kathleen Purdy (OH)

Karen Solheim (GA)

### **Proposed Amendments**

Linda McCrary presented, on behalf of the NEA-Retired Executive Council, the proposed amendments to the NEA-Retired Bylaws.

Proposed Amendment 1:

Article III, Objectives, H (new)

*Inform NEA of the challenges faced by its retired members and the resources needed to meet these challenges.*

Proposed Amendment 2:

Article VII, NEA-Retired Executive Officers

*Section 1. Executive Officers*

*The NEA-Retired Executive Officers shall include the President, Vice-President and Secretary. The President, Vice-President, and Secretary shall be elected at the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting for three-year staggered terms of office through an open nomination process and secret ballot election. Only NEA-Retired members shall be eligible to be candidates. Voting shall be restricted to the Retired delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly. If there is only one (1) candidate for the position, the presiding officer shall declare such candidate elected.*

*Section 2. Vacancies*

*Vacancies for the positions of NEA-Retired President, Vice-President, and Secretary shall be filled as follows:*

- A. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President who shall complete the term.*
- B. If during the first or second year of the term, a vacancy in either the office of Vice-President or Secretary occurs, such vacancy shall be filled by the NEA-Retired Executive Council, which shall elect a successor to serve until the next NEA-Retired Annual Meeting. NEA-Retired delegates to the Representative Assembly shall then elect a successor for the remainder of the term. If a vacancy occurs during the third year of a term, the Executive Council shall elect a successor for the remainder of the term.*

Proposed Amendment 3:

Article X - Retired Alternates to the NEA Board Directors (NEW – Subsequent Articles Require Renumbering)

*Section 1. REPRESENTATION*

*Members of NEA-Retired shall have alternate representatives in the event elected Directors cannot attend the NEA Board meetings.*

#### *Section 2. NUMBER OF RETIRED ALTERNATE DIRECTORS TO THE NEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

*NEA-Retired shall elect a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of six (6) Retired Alternate Directors to the NEA Board of Directors, by adding one seat for each of three years in a three-year election cycle, to a total of six elected Alternate Directors.*

#### *Section 3. Eligibility*

*Only NEA-Retired members shall be eligible to serve in the position of Retired Alternates to the NEA Board of Directors.*

#### *Section 4. Election*

*Retired Alternate Directors shall be elected at the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting consistent with the NEA requirements for three-year staggered terms. Nominations for office shall be open, and election shall be by secret ballot. Each Retired delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly in attendance shall be entitled to vote. If the number of candidates nominated equals the number of positions to be filled, the presiding officer shall declare such candidates elected.*

#### *Section 5. Vacancy*

*The NEA-Retired Executive Council shall recommend an individual to fill a Retired Alternate Director's place. The vacancy shall be filled by the NEA Board of Directors when in session or, when not in session, by the NEA Executive Committee. The individual appointed shall serve until the next NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, at which time a duly called election shall be held to fill the unexpired term of office.*

#### Proposed Amendment 4

##### Article XII, Section 4

*NEA-Retired members who are not delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly cannot vote or make or second motions but may otherwise participate in the proceedings.*

#### **Communications Awards**

Roberta Margo, NEA-Retired Executive Council, presented the 2022 Communications Awards.

NEA-RETIRED SPOTLIGHT AWARD

Winner - CEA-Retired Connecticut "CEA Advisor Magazine"

WEBSITE AWARD

Winner - New Jersey Retired Educators' Association

STATE RETIRED NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED LESS THAN 3 YEARS

Winner – Florida Education Association-Retired “FEA Florida Retired Newsletter”  
ESTABLISHED STATE RETIRED NEWSLETTER  
Winner – Alabama “The AERA Voice”  
Runner-up – MEA Michigan “Michigan Retirement Report”  
Runner-up – KNEA Kansas Retired “The Apple Corps”  
ESTABLISHED LOCAL RETIRED NEWSLETTER  
Winner – LEA-Retired Connection Out of Lincoln, Nebraska  
Runner-up – Monmouth County Retired Educators Association, New Jersey  
E-NEWSLETTER  
Winner – “The Clarion,” Maine  
Runner-up – Virginia Retired Connections

### **Recess**

The meeting was recessed at 4:57 PM CST.

## **Thursday, June 30**

### **Attendance**

334 delegates were eligible to vote; 298 were signed in virtually and in person. A quorum was reached. (Preliminary report given by Steve Gorrie, Elections Chair)

The NEA-Retired Annual meeting was reconvened at 10:34 AM CST.

### Speakers:

Mary Kusler, Director of the NEA Center for Advocacy

### Reports:

Meg Gruber, NEA-Retired Executive Council, Legislative Chair

JoAnn Smith-Mashburn, NEA-Retired Executive Council, Kinnaman Scholarship Chair

Julie Horwin, NEA Board of Directors Representing Retirees, Virtual Auction Co-Chair

Barb Schram, NEA Board of Directors Representing Retirees, Virtual Auction Co-Chair

Steve Gorrie, NEA-Retired Elections Chair

Janice Poirier, NEA-Retired Executive Council, Grants and Member Benefits Chair

### **Jack Kinnaman Memorial Scholarship Awards**

NEA-Retired presented scholarships to these college students:

Jaclyn E. Deal (Wingate University, NC)

Hannah St. Clair (University of Oregon)

Roman Trejo (Saint Xavier University, IL)

Sofia Vanderluis (University of Wisconsin)

Dajsha Williams (Ohio State)

### **Voting Results on Proposed Amendments**

Proposed Amendment 1 passed

Proposed Amendment 2 passed

Proposed Amendment 3 passed

Proposed Amendment 4 passed

### **Report of Action Taken on 2021 New Business Items**

Linda McCrary reported on the action taken on the 2021 New Business Items.

(1) Moved that NEA Delegates support NEA Bylaw Amendment #2- reduced lifetime dues for ESPs. Response: Passed

(2) Moved that NEA-Retired adopt the proposed Mission and Vision Statement. Response: Passed

### **New Business Items**

New Business Item 1:

Tom Wellman (NV) moved, seconded by Roberta Margo (MN), that NEA create a lobbying cadre of one Active and one Retired member from each impacted state, recommended by state presidents, focused solely on the repeal of Government Pension Offset-Windfall Elimination Provision (GPO-WEP). The GPO-WEP impedes NEA members and other individuals in the public sector from living with independence and dignity in retirement. This task force will bring the repeal of this egregious federal legislation to the forefront of NEA's legislative priorities. Cost of Implementation: \$135,000. Passed.

#### New Business Item 2:

Dennis Pfennig (VA) moved, seconded by Martha Wood (VA), that the NEA Retired President and the Executive Committee actively lobby the NEA Executive Director to take steps to create a line on the NEA phone switchboard for retired issues and, when employed, it is answered by a staffer who can assist the caller. That same staffer will be directed to ensure that all US Post and email messages/questions to NEA centering on retiree issues are responded to in some fashion.

This motion was ruled out of order by President Borgman because it did not conform to the submission of New Business Items.

Karen Mossman (HI) moved, seconded by Leesa Kuhlmann (WY), to appeal the ruling by the Chair; should the decision of the Chair be sustained? Failed.

Leesa Kuhlmann (WY) moved, seconded by George Sheridan (CA,) to divide the motion. Passed.

Discussion on first part of motion (that NEA Retired President and the Executive Committee actively lobby the NEA Executive Director to take steps to create a line on the NEA phone switchboard for retired issues). Passed.

Discussion on second part of motion (when employed, it is answered by a staffer who can assist the caller. That same staffer will be directed to ensure that all US Post and email messages/questions to NEA centering on retiree issues are responded to in some fashion). Failed.

#### New Business Item 3:



Tom Wellman (NV) moved, seconded by Dana Dillion (CA), that the NEA create and develop a media campaign (through existing media sources and outside media when possible) to more fully educate and inform members about the importance and value of defined benefit pension programs which provide for financial security, which allows our members to live with dignity in their retirement. Passed.

### **Membership Awards**

Tom Wellman, NEA-Retired Executive Council, presented the 2022 Membership Awards.

#### NEA-Retired Membership Growth Award

Winner – Pennsylvania Education Association

Runner-up – California Teachers Association/NEA-retired

#### Largest Percentage Increase Award

Winner – Education Minnesota – Retired

Runner-up – California Teachers Association/ NEA Retired

#### Spirit of Membership Award

Winner – Georgia Association of Educators

Honorable Mention – Missouri NEA-Retired

Honorable Mention - Ohio Education Association-Retired

### **Installation/Recognition**

Sarah Borgman installed the newly elected members of the NEA-Retired Resolutions Committee and NEA-Retired Member representing Retirees on the NEA Board of Directors as an alternate, Diane Larson.

Mae Smith (IL) was recognized as an out-going NEA-Retired Governance leader.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 PM CST.

