

**RPEA Northern Region Business Meeting = via Zoom
August 20, 2020**

Present: Clark Milne, Karen Milne, Charlie Gallagher, Trish Patterson, Mary Zalar, Bob McHattie, Ron Johnson, Carol Johnson

Clark Milne convened the meeting at Noon. Mary Zalar recorded minutes.

State RPEA has a Zoom account that our chapter can use. Clark talked to Wendy Wolf of the Southcentral chapter about their upcoming meetings. Our chapter can be invited to view the Southcentral meetings (on Zoom) as well.

State RPEA Report – Charlie Gallagher

1. It has been a complicated transition to new Executive Board. Margaret King resigned from the Communications Chair role. According to bylaws, someone was appointed to the position.
2. May and June meetings mostly dealt with statewide elections and chapter business. Our chapter budget was approved. 1st quarter's \$900 was sent. Charlie would like checks to be sent first month of quarter.
3. Rob Johnson – PERS fund seems to be doing well.
4. Some difficulties with new board members and Southcentral folks not fully onboard with how the RPEA Executive Board is run.
5. Statewide election results:
 - a. Sharon Hoffbeck, President
 - b. Stephanie Rhoades, Secretary
 - c. Margaret Duggan, MIC Chair
 - d. Bob Grove, Membership Chair
6. RPEA has moved its small "statewide" office out of the 2nd floor room, next to APEA's offices.
7. It is anticipated that another, substantive RPEA Membership drive will be held in the fall.

Treasurer's Report – Clark presented Frank's report (he couldn't attend). Funds available are now \$2,061.55. A complete annual report from July 2019 to late June 2020 was filed by Frank and Charlie, with Statewide.

Committee Reports –

1. Medical Information Committee has not met during the summer. Although the traditional fall health fair will not be held, a separate entity—Alaska Health Fair—offers screenings by appointment. See their website, www.alaskahealthfair.org, for more information. MIC could find out about any changes in IRMA reimbursements and provide information to the membership.
1. Legislative – Ron Johnson. Redistricting will occur which could result in Fairbanks losing a seat and Wasilla picking up a seat. Preliminary results of primary election suggest that various non-incumbent candidates in favor of a "full" PFD could make it on the ballot and potentially be elected.

Facilities and Programs –

1. Program ideas/intentions – most of these are desirable but not arranged yet:
 - a. **September 17** - John Davies, UA Board of Regents (this is now arranged, as a Zoom meeting)
 - b. October 15 – "Voting procedures & nuances, mail-in options", by AK Division of Elections
 - c. November 19 - Telemedicine – what issues are good to be handled by telemedicine and what should be an ER or in-person visit. We hope that Tanana Valley Clinic may provide a speaker.
 - d. January 21, 2021 (?) - A meeting with Legislators should be scheduled. November might not work if it takes longer for election results due to increased voting by mail. Meeting could be in early December or even January after legislators are ensconced in Juneau.
 - e. February 18 - Financial planning and considerations specifically for retirees (there have been recent changes in IRA required minimum distribution and other issues)
 - f. March 18 - Vaccinations, especially for COVID-19; Bob and his wife got their flu shots yesterday. Is getting it (the initial flu vaccine) so "early" advisable?
 - g. April 15 or May 20 – Hope to have presentation by Statewide RPEA representative(s).

- h. Alternate option, as potential “fill-in” if complications ensue: LifeMed presentation about medical evacuation insurance.
- 2. Raven Landing
 - a. Currently closed to use for “public” meetings, until the end of September.
 - b. Manager is cautiously optimistic about improving internet to accommodate hosting Zoom meetings. Would appreciate having small, in-person meetings of 15 people plus the internet.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.