

ARHME Board of Directors Special Meeting
Friday, November 21, 2008, 11:30 AM
North Harris County Regional Water Authority
3648 1960 West, Suite 110

MINUTES

In attendance:

George Bravenec
Danny Faulkner
Moe Mata
Jayne Longley
Al Mays
Jack Wells
Shorwi Nandagiri
Marian Domingue

Absent:

None

1) Membership

George Bravenec called the meeting to order at 11:45 AM. Explained this meeting was called to discuss various ideas for ways to increase our membership. Stated it's clear that we need to become more active in obtaining names. Showri Nandagiri suggested we try to get each member to contact 10 new retirees in order to increase our numbers. Jayne Longley suggested we take out an ad in City publications, make up posters to display at city facilities such as EB Cape Center, 611 Walker, City Hall, the Pension Office, Convention Centers and Multi Service Centers. Jayne Longley also suggested we do a mailout and that each retiree be encouraged to bring at least one guest to the next general membership meeting. Another idea was that we could put up some kind of flyer at City facilities like EB Cape Center advertising our web site and also that we need to set up some kind of call committee to call retirees to remind them of meetings and/or items of interest. George Bravenec will contact Candy Aldrich to find out what would be required to allow our organization to participate in city employee functions sponsored by the City and if we could include a "flyer" about ARHME in retiree information packets given to retirees just prior to their retirement from the City.

Jack Wells suggested that at the next general membership meeting we ask (not wait for them to volunteer) people to serve on a committee to start calling other retirees to encourage them to find other retirees to become members and be active in our meetings. We discussed how and why to get retirees interested in joining our organization. Moe Mata stated we need to let our retirees know what we're about, what we're trying to accomplish and why it would be beneficial for them to join. They need to know we want to protect and preserve our pension and our benefits. We all agreed that we need more members in order to have more credibility. Moe suggested we make a script as to what

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we are going to say when we call to solicit their membership. The Board agreed we would state the ARHME Mission Statement and the following script would be included:

Why do you want to join?

- 1) To be part of an organized advocacy group that represents your interest in pension and benefit matters.
- 2) To stay informed about issues that may affect your pension and benefits.
- 3) Present a united front which will have a stronger influence through greater membership numbers.
- 4) With the state of the economy, it is particularly important to be informed and engaged in matters regarding your future.

George Bravenec stated he had discussed with David Long the possibility of our participating in the 3rd Annual Expo which is held twice a year and David said that we could and there would be no cost.

Al Mays said he feels we should put another small article in the Pension Press and state our Mission and include our web site address and a phone number. Marian Domingue volunteered to look into having a separate phone line run in her house in order to handle questions/suggestions from retirees. We agreed the wording should state that we want retirees to **join** our organization, not just volunteer. We want them to be active providing they are able.

The Board discussed how to go about obtaining addresses. Jayne Longley said she would check with the Deferred Compensation Committee as to whether or not we could include a mailout in with statements. The Board discussed whether or not we could obtain a list from the Credit Union. Moe Mata volunteered to call Byron and find out about obtaining a list so we could include a mailout in those statements. The Board also discussed our involvement at the Credit Union's Annual Meeting.

2) General Membership meeting

We agreed that the Program Committee should work on getting speakers to attend our general membership meetings. Jayne Longley will find out about the availability of holding our General Membership meeting at EB Cape Center. The Board briefly discussed holding meetings at other times such as during the evening and decided that would not necessarily bring about a larger response.

3) Other Matters pertaining to ARHME

Al Mays made a motion to adopt the logo with the picture of City Hall (w/rope) in black and white. Jayne Longley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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George Bravenec encouraged all Board members to get their g-mail account set up and get their photo to Gary Nathanson so he can finish the web site and it can get up and running. We briefly discussed getting the money matter settled with Gary Nathanson.

George Bravenec volunteered to look into getting a DBA for our organization. We agreed we need to find an attorney to give us advice on various matters.

Al Mays asked if we could get names from HR? Jayne Longley volunteered to ask Candy Aldrich how much information we could obtain.

Also, Board discussed sending out an e-mail re: draft statement and send to members of Board and get comments/suggestions.

Danny Faulkner volunteered to bring lunch to our next Board meeting.

Al Mays made a motion that we adjourn. Moe Mata seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 PM.

Action Items:

George Bravenec

George Bravenec will contact Candy Aldrich to find out what would be required to allow our organization to participate in city employee functions sponsored by the City and if we could include a "flyer" about ARHME in retiree information packets given to retirees just prior to their retirement from the City.

Jayne Longley

Jayne Longley said she would check with the Deferred Compensation Committee as to whether or not we could include a mailout in with statements.

Jayne Longley will also find out about the availability of holding our General Membership meeting at EB Cape Center.

Jayne Longley volunteered to ask Candy Aldrich how much information we could obtain.

Marian Domingue

Marian Domingue volunteered to look into having a separate phone line run in her house in order to handle questions/suggestions from retirees

Al Mays

Al Mays volunteered to find out if David Long can be our speaker at the next meeting in January.

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