**APWU Retiree Spring Meeting Minutes**

**May 11, 2010**

The semi-annual Retiree’s meeting was held at the APWU hall on Tuesday, May 11, 2010. Twenty-five members/spouses attended with socializing at 10:00a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:20a.m. by President Barb VerSteegh with George Bates leading us with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom Larkin from Senator Tom Harkin’s office spoke on the recently passed health reform bill. The new bill will focus on more prevention and coverage for all. Some of the highlights are:

1. Small businesses will save money on insurance for their employees.
2. Annual and lifetime caps on costs will be removed over the next four years.
3. Cancellation due to illness will stop. The only reason for cancellation would be for failure to pay premiums or fraud.

2010

1. There will be no riders for children this year and riders will be eliminated for everyone over the next four years.
2. Children will be eligible under their parents up to age 26.
3. There will be an appeals process.

2011

1. 50% discount on some drugs
2. Medicare advantage
3. Premiums will be reported on W-2

2014

1. Exchanges start
2. Pre-existing conditions will be allowed coverage
3. Premiums will vary only on age

2018

1. A tax will be implemented on cadillac insurance policies.

Mr. Larkin stated this bill promotes coverage for everyone at a fair cost with fines paid by those who don’t have health care coverage.

The minutes of the last meeting and treasurer’s report were read and approved.

There was no safety report.

Bryon Preminger gave a legislative report on:

1. Pre-funding of future retirees health plan HR1507
2. All of the congressmen were on board except King for retention of Saturday mail delivery.
3. Check the Government website for all of the legislative alerts and updates at APWU.org.

President, Lance Coles and President, Barb VerSteegh are looking for ways to get the union members to continue their membership in the union after retirement and increasing the activities of the retirees through Alliance for Retired Americans and union activities.

Lance invited the retirees to the local picnic that was held on June 19, 2010 and the celebration of the 100 year anniversary of our local at the union hall in July.

**Old Business**

Harold Nolan made a motion that was seconded by Ralph Crowell to reconsider the payment by the chapter of the postage to mail the Iowa Postal Solidarity newspaper to retirees that are members of this chapter as voted on at the last meeting. Non-members get theirs free. Barb turned the chair over to George Bates so that she could voice her opinion of the subject. Why do scabs get copies while members would pay the cost of the mailing of theirs? Lance reported that not all chapters have the option to join reitrees’ organizations. The vote was 10-4. The motion was passed to not pay the postage.

**New Business**

Carol Tyler questioned moving the meeting time from the second Tuesday of September because of the local school board elections. It was determined that it would not affect the September 2010 meeting so no further discussion was held.

Carol Tyler motioned and Ralph Crowell’s seconded that two free tickets to the Iowa State Fair be purchased for each member interested in attending the fair. The motion passed.

Lloyd Weems made a motion that we send one person to the Retirees Convention, August 21-27. Sharon Glen seconded the motion. Barb VerSteegh volunteered to attend. The motion passed.

Lloyd Weems made a motion and Karen Smith seconded that we form a committee for social activities such as trips and outings. Jerry Mellor and Karen Alexander volunteered to be on the committee.

Jerry and Shirley Mellor won both door prizes.

The next meeting will be September 14th, 2010.

Motion was made to adjourn at 11:45a.m.

As always, a delicious lunch was served by the Auxiliary.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Alexander, Secretary.