

NYSUT RC 9 FSNUR Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 27, 2023  
Potsdam NYSUT Office

Present: Ron Day, Sheila Day, Sarah Fiacco, Tony Fiacco, Carrie French, Tom French, Sandra Gleason, Ruth Shippee

The Meeting Began with a Presentation by Anne Hopkins & Juanita Babcock on the Benefits of a SOAR (Stimulating Opportunities After Retirement) Membership

- I. Anne discussed volunteer opportunity for SOAR Ambassadors who introduce speakers/presenters
- II. Juanita discussed SOAR origins dating to to 2001
- III. Other Details About SOAR:
  - a. Affiliated with Roads Scholar (previously Elderhostel) and partnered with SUNY Potsdam (Office on SUNY Campus)
  - b. Popular Courses – Tai Chi, Arts & Crafts Classes, Music, and Lectures on Host of Topics.
  - c. Spring & Fall Semesters. Programs take place all over the County
- IV. Registration Details:
  - a. \$75/year – Good for All Programs, though enrollment is individual classes is on a first come/first serve basis if enrollment is limited.
  - b. Registration period begins in the fall.
  - c. Includes Maxy Hall Fitness Center & SUNY Library (but you must attend at least one class/year).
  - d. Includes Luncheon at End of Semesters

**Business Portion of Meeting:**

- I. Approval of Agenda -- Motion by Carrie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandra. Approved.
- II. Motion to Accept Minutes of the December 5, 2023 Minutes. Motion by Laura; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah. Motion passed
- III. Reports:
  - a. **Treasurer's Report:** Rick Morris, RC 9 Treasurer, has indicated that an account for FSNUR is being set up at Key Bank being set up and should have close to \$2000. If we need funds in the meantime, we will have access. MOTION to Approve Report by Sandra, 2<sup>nd</sup> CARRIE. Approved.
  - b. **Membership:** Close to 120 FSNUR retirees have officially joined by mail through the Watertown Office. Memberships are through the June 30<sup>th</sup> fiscal year.
  - c. **Nominating Committee:** (Tom, Sandra & Laura) The slate of FSNUR officers for the June Meeting will be Tony (President), Valerie (VP), Tom French (Secretary), Sarah (Treasurer).
    - i. Timeline: March Newsletter will announce officer candidates for June Election
    - ii. A discussion was also had over the need to review and potentially revise bylaws
- IV. Discussion into initiatives that would benefit from retiree volunteers including People Project (see flyer) which has roots to the closing of Alcoa and evolution to today to encourage Community School initiatives.
- V. Development of FSNUR Calendar of Events and Meetings:
  - a. Schedule Through July:
    - i. Remington Museum – March 14
    - ii. Eclipse – April 8 (Tom French)

- iii. May 23 Conference in Watertown
- iv. St. Lawrence Power and Equipment Museum – Tentatively in June
- v. Tour of Thousand Island Park – July (Tom French)
- b. Other Potential Events for Next Few Months
  - i. Carrie French will investigate an event Third Wheel Pottery in Potsdam
  - ii. Sandra Gleason will investigate Paint & Sit (Tentative Date May 2)
    - 1. Most places charge \$40 as a fundraiser (costs \$25), proceeds for scholarships.
    - 2. We provide Food & Drink
    - 3. Adults Only
  - iii. Boat Tours -- Tom French will investigate Raquette Lake, Boldt Castle, Singer Castle, Rock Island Light, Dinner Cruises
- c. Longer Term Potential Events
 

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Tupper Lake Area (Wild Center, Train, Rail Bikes, Spring Pond Bog)</li> <li>ii. Plattsburgh Area (War of 1812 Museum, Air Force Base Museum, Miner Institute, etc.)</li> <li>iii. Lisbon Museum -- Up in Air. Lisbon not renewing Historian. (Sandra Gleason will Investigate)</li> <li>iv. Fire Tower Hikes</li> <li>v. Canadian Attractions – Upper Canada Village, Ottawa, Montreal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>vi. Pub/Beer/Wine/Coffee Shop Tours, but also perhaps single visit events for lunch and socializing</li> <li>vii. Baseball in NYC Bus Tour</li> <li>viii. Casino</li> <li>ix. Hosmer Hall Event (with dinner)</li> <li>x. Hockey Games</li> <li>xi. Art Workshops</li> <li>xii. Shelburne Museum</li> <li>xiii. Maple Weekends</li> <li>xiv. Presentations as part of meeting agenda</li> </ul>
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VI. FSNUR Sponsored Scholarship: Discussion of setting up a scholarship to support new teachers just entering their careers in the fall. Motion by Sandra, 2nd by Valerie. Passed. Details:

- a. Award in the Fall.
- b. Have to be Union members. R
- c. Request a list of all new teachers (first teaching job) from districts. Draw from a hat.
- d. Two awards of \$100 from each county.
- e. No award to more than one district.

VII. Other

- a. Tom Agreed to help with Single Issue Emails and North Country Now in addition to regular Newsletters
- b. For future reference, one of Sarah's former students owns a bus charter company. Sarah will get information on costs and capacity.
- c. Topics for future meetings:
- d. Continued Activities Organization
- e. Promoting More Involvement in the Group by Other Retirees (per district).
- f. School Elections

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 11 at 10:00 at the Potsdam NYSUT Office

Motion to adjourn meeting by Valerie. Carrie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed.