

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

December 10, 2009

Present: Mike Norman, Wayne Woodtke, Margo Chase-Wells, Bob Scalzo, Ellen Long, Trena Caron, John Kane, Carol Noble, Sandra Fitzgerald, Bonnie Reimann, Ken Sopelak, Bob Lewandowski, Mike Ieronimo, Helen Bucior, Sandra Bove, Tom Singleton

Secretary's minutes of the last BOD meeting were approved (Scalzo/Trenda)

President's Report

1. On 12/14/09, Michael Norman will be in Naugatuck to speak to a newly formed group that wants to become its own affiliate separate from Waterbury.
2. We'll be asking the affiliate presidents for nominations for the Morris Nirenstein award. Candidates need to be both local affiliate and ARTC members and be active in community service.
3. Diane Alverio, our new communications person, spoke to us about her company, her background, and gave us some insights about her plans for ARTC.
4. Next fall the luncheon may be held in the New Haven area.
5. AMBA's member packet info is on the website. Wayne is also checking to see if we can get a discount rate for membership at club stores (BJ's Sam's club).
6. Our new prescription carrier is CVS/Caremark that we got by piggy-backing on the state employees' plan. They cover everything except 3 statins (special cholesterol drugs) We'll be receiving our new cards in January 2010.
7. Michael Norman proposed putting money aside for a building fund so we won't be caught short if we require a permanent site. There is an ad hoc committee in place checking on rental sites. John Kane suggested we take between 1 and 5% of incoming dues for this fund. No motion was entertained in this regard.
8. Michael Norman will be in Florida from Jan. – March 2010. He may be reached via his cell @ 860-508-2742 and he'll be checking his e-mail daily as well.
9. Anyone who wants to or knows someone who wants to run for any of the offices should send their names to Carol Noble, chair of the nominating committee.

Treasurer's Report

Ed was not present, but sent in a statement that our portfolio is getting healthier and is at \$313,000.

Executive Director's Report

1. Good Morning America has invited ARTC members (no limit) to attend the show's taping as VIP guests in NYC any Thursday or Friday in January or February 2010. A tour and "meet-and-greet" would be included. Of course you have to be there about 6:45 am. The board tossed out ideas like how about a bus, and an overnight, maybe include a show, but no one seemed to step up and offer to organize it. Each affiliate president was asked to formulate a plan that will work for them.
2. Our website address is now www.artct.org There is now an affiliate page where news and newsletters can be posted for every affiliate.
3. Wayne Woodtke needs to update central office software because he cannot open certain documents in Word if the issue is newer than the Word 2003 he has. The Board approved the purchase of the appropriate software.

Public Relations

Patty McDonnell was absent, but all newsletter submissions are due to Patty and wayne by December 15, 2009.

Membership Report

1. Bonnie handed out a spreadsheet showing ARTC has 10,023 members to date. Our goal is 11,000. They are considering creating some incentives. Donations currently stand at \$15,700 solicited from LIFE members and those who retired prior to 1987. The plan is to put a donation request in the next newsletter to speak to regular members.

Legislative Report

1. Our goals have shifted because the state doesn't contribute to the insurance fund this year.
2. It was moved and seconded (Kane/Scalzo) to invite the republican candidates to speak at the fall luncheon since the Democrats spoke in the spring. It passed with 1 abstention. Randy Collins/MP Guinan will handle invitations.
3. A teacup auction is scheduled for the spring. It was originally funded by PAC but by law PAC cannot be responsible for this type of expenditure so financing (\$500) for it was passed on to the Legislative Committee. Legislative Chairs Bove & D'Agostino requested that the cost be the responsibility of ARTC Board of Directors. No vote was taken.
4. John Kane asked why the Executive Board defeated his 40-40-20 proposal (actually they defeated the motion to hire Joe Fields to analyze it). He went on to explain it to us in more detail and believes this plan should be presented in 2011 and implemented in 2012. No vote was taken.

Insurance Report

No report as Rick/Louise Follman were absent.

It was noted by Michael Norman:

If you learn of an ARTC related development please notify President Norman, the Chair(s) of the appropriate committee, and Wayne Woodtke's office as well. We unfortunately got crossed up last week with the signing of the new insurance carrier and asking Atty. Gen. Blumental for support, after the fact. Michael Norman had to do some fancy back peddling to avoid making us look foolish.

Nominating Report

Carol Noble called most of the current officers and got a commitment from most of them to run again in the spring. Bonnie Reimann, Co-Chair of Membership, mentioned she might be leaving to move out of state. Carol Noble, Sandra Fitzgerald, and Lucy Sweeney will work to draft a slate and have it printed up for the next newsletter.

Social Services Report

John Luning tells us that in 2006 this committee switched to an outreach type of program. Up until then it had just collected eyeglasses and cell phones for the Lions club. Last year he tried to get us to participate in the Junior Achievement program where teachers went back into the schools and taught economics. This wasn't so successful because it turns out a lot of retired teachers don't want to go back in the classroom! He gave us some new ideas and a suggestion list. He's looking to get ARTC involved in a state level outreach program. He asked for a representative from each affiliate to meet and brainstorm and he promises to keep us out of the classroom.

Old Business

Wayne Woodtke needs to implement a way to notify people when there is a cancellation due to inclement weather. Until something better comes along, he will notify via e-mail, but the rule of thumb will be:

If Farmington schools are cancelled that day, then our meeting is also cancelled.

New business – none.

Adjourned (Norman/Bucior) at 1:29 pm

Margo Chase-Wells