

**ARTC Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 7, 2009**  
**UAW Hall**

**Presidents Report – Michael Norman**

1. On April 21st Mike will attend a Social Security meeting w/ the CT Coalition along w/Cathy D'Agostino, Sandra Bove, Ellen Long and Helen Bucior.
2. **MOTION/APPROVED** (John Kane/Tom Singleton) to cover Helen Bucior's \$346 expenses to attend C.A.R.E. convention.
3. Michael told us about concentration camp escapee who was going to speak at our luncheon but needed to cancel. We were able to secure a comedian, Linda Belt.
4. **MOTION/APPROVED** (John Kane/Michael Ward) to bring AMBA discussion to the floor.
  - ~Wayne said the "endorsement" language is no problem. Other words suggested were "support, recommend..."
  - ~AMBA said there may be some room in future to increase the Administrative Cost payment of \$1/ member.
  - ~They will also update & manage our website. Wayne has 100% input though.
  - ~Rick checked & they DO have a CT partnership. It was suggested we have the contract with AMBA reviewed by our attorney. (Patty McQueen/Wayne will check to see if this is something Bob Shae, the PAC lawyer can complete.
  - ~AMBA membership will not affect/insult AARP. Many other members are members of both
  - ~Rick said this is primarily geared at AMBA's goal in selling Long Term Care Ins. Rick mentioned he paid \$11,000 for one month of LTC, and the average for the country is \$85,000 a year.

**MOTION/APPROVED** - Roz Schoonmaker/Michael Ward moved to end discussion.

**MOTION/APPROVED** - Sandra Bove/Roz Schoonmaker moved to accept AMBA upon review/approval of the contract and member letter by Wayne Woodtke and the Executive Board.

5. New Haven Affiliate is dormant. Ed Messina wants to resurrect it. He'll try to get a hold of Carol Noble. John Kane has info that would help. (He had come up with a plan to divide New Haven into north & south and Carol Noble had embraced this). Tom Singleton will help with the resurrection process.

**Secretary – Margo Chase-Wells**

Minutes of 1/27/09 - **MOTION/APPROVED** (Tom Singleton/Roz Schoonmaker) with 1 correction from Patty McDonnell changing "WPE" to "WEP." Also noted that Margo made neon name signs so we will always know who is talking.

**President Elect – Tom Singleton**

No report

**Financial - Ed Messina**

Our portfolio value has gone from Jan '09 ~ \$353,000 to a low of March '09 ~ \$237,000 (Ended March '09 at ~\$254,000) Now ~ \$262,000. Harriet Hartley Fund is valued at about \$12,300.

**Publicity – Patty McQueen**

1. Worked with Ellen Long to make invitations for the legislators for lunch on Lobby Day.
2. Has been talking with Randy about preparations for Lobby Day.
3. Gave us recommendations of what to say to our legislators when we visit with them.
4. John Kane made a motion the legislative chairs and Mike forward a letter to them outlining our legislative position on certain issues. Ellen didn't think it was a good idea to put anything in writing. It was amended to "consult with the publicist and lobbyist" **PASSED**

5. Sandy & Cathy passed out “talking points”. This will be tweaked by Patty McQueen who said it’s OK if it is left behind with your legislator.

### **Public Relations - Patty McDonnell**

1. Newsletter went out without some corrections/editing.
2. Lobby Day – doing lots of organizing, food ordering (get her your numbers attending)
3. Reminder to send 15 copies of your newsletter to the ARTC office to be mailed to the presidents of the affiliates.
4. Check our website – there are lots of volunteer opportunities on there.

### **Executive Director - Wayne Woodtke**

Explained that his report is a little of everyone else’s, so he’ll just interject when needed.

### **Lobbyist – Randy Collins**

Not in attendance.

### **Membership - Bonnie Reimann / Roz Schoonmaker**

1. We’re up to 10,365 members. It was decided not to send an appeal letter to active teachers – instead sent it to ‘08 ARTC members who did not re-join this year. No results yet, but we expect to get about \$6000. We are offering a deal – a year and 4 months for \$50. Offer ends June 1.

### **Insurance - Rick Follman**

1. We had 892 low income teachers qualify, and receive, the upgrade in supplement from \$110 to \$220 for health insurance.
2. There are many generic drugs out there. FDA only checks ~ 15 out of 3000, so if you’re on a generic and it’s not working – go back to your doctor! Also, India has been putting fillers in some drugs. MedCo does not get any drugs from India.
3. MedCo is having computer problems which are affecting prescriptions, etc. When you call them, make sure you get a verification number. Our health insurance through ARTC with vision, dental, Rx, and health totals only \$149 month.
4. Rick has invited Darlene Perez, Exec. Admin. of the TRB to the next Insurance Committee meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss insurance topics.
5. Roz noted that the TRB executive employees willingly gave up 1 day with no pay, and will probably be asked to give up another. Rick will send a thank you note to Darlene for this kind act. Of the 286 legislators – 14 gave up 1 day with no pay.
6. Rick noted that it was pleasant visiting the new headquarters of TRB. There is plenty of free and safe parking.

### **Social Services - John Luning**

1. John feels that most affiliates are doing outreach programs on their own, and a social service activity at the ARTC level seems redundant. He will be retiring from this position soon.
2. We ARE committed to the Junior Achievement project for this year, though. Let’s see this through. Call Roz Hooks to arrange delivery of an economics kit to take into a school. He has 12. Only 2 have been taken so far. AARP members are allowed to teach this economics literacy class, too. They have been doing most of the teaching it seems.

### **Legislative - Cathy D’Agostino / Sandra Bove**

1. Reminder about Lobby Day – 9:30am – 2:00pm - Meet in room 1D. Make an appointment with your legislators, about 11 – 11:30. Talking points will be tweaked and distributed. There will also be a booklet handed out that day during orientation by Guinan Associates.

2. Chairs met with the New England Coalition about social security issues. They drafted talking points to be distributed to all the presidents. They'll meet again in June.
3. Chairs also met with the CT Coalition. They divided up all other state workers who are affected by this social security issue to include postal workers. They hope to have them attend the July meeting.
4. They set goals – a) to get out the talking points and b) to get the names of retirees out of state. We can use their help in communicating with their own legislators.
5. There are about 10 bills out there in Congress – the #1 bill most important to us is the one about taxing our pensions.
6. Affiliate presidents are asked to get some horror stories from their members about how this GPO-WEP offset has affected them personally.
7. Ellen showed us the invitation sent to all legislators to attend the luncheon and chat with us on Lobby Day.

**MOTION/APPROVED** - John Kane/Roz Schoonmaker moved that we go through the Federal Human Rights Commission presenting this GPO-WEP offset as discriminatory against women since they are most affected by it. Mary Gracyalny said HRC would have to receive a complaint to act upon it. Helen Bucior thinks she has a good case in Hartford for them. Roz Schoonmaker / Bob Scalzo called the question which passed.

### **Programs – Helen Bucior**

1. We're all set with Aqua Turf for May 19. The comedian will be sent a deposit of \$100 and final payment of \$100 on the day.
2. Wayne reported we have only 2 vendors for the May 19 meeting so far – Compass Capital and Sterling Benefits.

### **Scholarship – Terry Barton / Judy Morganroth (Terry / Judy not present)**

1. Will meet Monday, 5/4, to review applications. Vote for the winners on Wednesday, 5/6.
2. Lou asked why applicants don't have to be from public school. We tried to change it once, but the bottom line is we want to help out needy kids who are going into teaching, and there are still lots of kids in private schools on full scholarship who are needy.

### **Auditor - Ellen Long**

1. A by-law change will be voted on at the spring meeting (hands only) which defines the internal auditor's position. We will tell the association that this was unanimously supported by the Board of Directors.

### **PAC - Rick Cassar**

1. Will get us a letter encouraging members to support certain legislators that support our causes. PAC is still providing reimbursement for teas and coffee klatches for candidate support.
2. They are reviewing the position and duties of publicist.
3. Question – should the publicist be paid by ARTC and PAC? We'll have to check the campaign rules.

### **Financial Consultant - Mary Gracyalny**

The report was handed out and no questions asked.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

- ~ Mike asked Margo to send a note to anyone absent from this meeting.
- ~ Affiliates were asked to contact Wayne Woodtke with info re: a link to their website.
- ~ Patty McDonnell reported that 17 Fairfield Affiliate newsletters were returned with an incorrect address. TRB can get correct ones for us only if they have the updated address. Wayne reported that he has 1,200

members with no addresses. He can divide them by affiliates, and give them to us for review. We may be able to get some addresses for him from our own members.

~ Reminder to RSVP to Wayne whether or not you'll be attending a meeting. He needs a head count for food ordering.

Adjourned 1:37

Next meeting June 2 at 10 am at UAW hall

Respectfully Submitted –  
Margo Chase-Wells