

## ARTC Board of Directors

September 7, 2010

**Present:** Mike Norman, Tom Singleton, Wayne Woodtke, Mary Gracyalny, Margo Chase-Wells, Ed Messina, Cathy D'Agostino, Louise Follman, Rick Follman, Terry Barton, Bob Scalzo, Trena Caron, John Kane, Carol Noble, Sandra Fitzgerald, Bonnie Reimann, Roz Schoonmaker, Ken Sopolak, Bob Lewandowski, Mike Ieronimo, Pat Yacovacci

**Guest(s):** Rick Cassar/ARTC-PAC, Jamie Stirling/Stirling Benefits

**Secretary - Margo Chase-Wells**

The June 8, 2010 minutes were discussed & accepted.

MOTION: (R. Schoonmaker / R. Scalzo) – PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**President – Michael Norman**

1. No report by Ellen Long's ad hoc "Ambassador Committee."
2. Michael explained that the purpose of establishing a Florida group (CT teacher retirees now living primarily in FL) is purely based on a social / legislative level. He gave an update on the interest of several individuals who wish to be involved and mentioned he will be in FL for the winter. Michael will attempt to meet with interested parties. It was suggested that ARTC monitor the progress of the situation
3. Michael showed examples of the content he has placed on his "ARTC Happenings" blog. After discussion the board felt it was not appropriate for his personal opinions to appear under the auspices of "ARTC" and requested he disassociate the ARTC name with his personal blog. He agreed to delete the title and change to something like "Mike Norman's Happenings."
4. Michael reported that Bob Scalzo (President of No. Fairfield County RTA) is soliciting campaign funds for Denise Napier. She needs an additional \$15,000 to qualify for the matching \$75,000 available from the state.

**Legislative – Sandra Bove/Cathy D'Agostino**

1. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for 9/13/10 where they will set their goals to include: The Health Insurance Premium Account fund and repeal of the WEP-GPO as well as increasing active email contacts through VoterVoice.
2. At the Fall Luncheon on 10/19/10 they're trying to get Foley & Malloy to speak. Stay tuned for updates! They will line up "back-ups" in case those two cannot attend.
3. Cathy & Sandra reported that the Lobby Day booklet cost \$1,015 – an amount they were not consulted on via MPGuinan... Wayne Woodtke was given full authority to negotiate a price with Randy Collins... MOTION: To pay the negotiated bill upon receipt – (R. Follman/T. Singleton) PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Treasurer – Ed Messina**

1. Our balance is currently at \$307,642, up from a low of \$238,000 in March 2008. We have \$38,000 in cash and make \$6,300 in interest earnings. John Kane suggested we put \$50,000 aside for the Huntley fund, and invest the rest allowing for an amount equal to the original endowment. The decision was TABLED until the December meeting.

### **Financial Officer – Mary Gracyalny**

Mary reported that we are currently having an outside audit done. They are looking at the last 10 years. She will report on results ASAP.

### **Guest – Jamie Stirling/Stirling Benefits**

Jamie Stirling briefly discussed some points on HealthCare reform. The information is available upon request to Stirling benefits. He will be at our Fall Luncheon on Tuesday, 10/19/10.

### **President-Elect – Tom Singleton**

The Evaluation Committee completed (now required annually) our Executive Director, Wayne Woodtke's review. It was a very positive report. MOTION: A 3% increase in salary retroactive back to July 1, 2010. (M. Ieronimo/H. Bucior) - PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

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

- The HealthFlash Card program will be getting new cards out to all as the USB tag doesn't work well with EMT hardware.
- Special Olympics is asking for \$\$\$\$. The Board does not want to contribute at this time.
- Dan Coughlin is no longer the president of Windham-Tolland. Tom Singleton will be point-person for the immediate future.
- Wayne reported receiving a lot of very useful learning experiences from the ASRTE conference in St. Louis this summer to included a focus on social media like Facebook, Twitter & YouTube. It was noted that we have the excellent skills of Wayne Kensel who wants to be of assistance as we go forward in the "YouTube Video" world...
- Wayne requested funds to purchase a new flip camera to be used to create videos of ARTC events/committee meetings, etc. MOTION: Appropriate a \$200 budget for the purchase of a Flip Video Camcorder device. (R. Scalzo/J. Kane) PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
- Fall Newsletters are being sent to all the superintendents in the state.
- Wayne is collecting "Pricing Quotes" from 3 companies for future print job requests during 2010 – 2011. We're tossing around the idea of a group trip to Mohegan Sun in the June – Sept. season for basketball, meetings, etc.

### **Public Relations – Patty McDonnell – Not Present**

Wayne reported –

- The fall Newsletter will be out in the next 2 weeks.
- Luncheon choices are NY Strip Steak, Turkey or Salmon. And the pasta is BACK!
- Margo presented 2 options for lobby day identification of ARTC members – a felt shoulder patch or a 3" pin. Prices were very competitive...Decision pending.

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

- We have 4,619 LIFE members and 4,487 annual members for a total of 9,106 as of this meeting date.
- Of the 330 "AMBA generated" ARTC members for 2010 - 126 have renewed so far in 2011.
- We have 3 new LIFE members.
- Our June 2010 Renewal Invoice resulted in an over 75% response rate.
- Our Newsletter will include a "New Membership" request.

- A “2<sup>nd</sup> Request” invoice will be sent to those members from 2008/2009/2010 who have not yet renewed for 2011.
- AMBA will be sending out “Membership / Benefit” letters to CT “Newly Retired” individuals in late September.
- To date: Members have sent in \$1,270 for the benefit of our Glenn Moon Scholarship Fund, \$956 in unsolicited contributions to ARTC and HealthFlash card sales have generated an income of \$140.
- We have received annual payment of \$40 from 8 of our 15 affiliates.
- Wayne Woodtke is developing the possibility of being able to issue an ARTC Membership Card. Roz Schoonmaker mentioned that she thinks AMBA should pay for it. Wayne will explore that possibility with AMBA. Different options of the membership card were presented.

**ARTC-PAC – Rick Cassar**

- ARTC-PAC suggested our Democratic members vote for “Malloy-Wyman” in the August primary. It was decided ARTC-PAC will NOT endorse Gubernatorial Candidates in the November elections. ARTC-PAC will get a full list of all endorsed candidates to the presidents of the affiliates.

**Insurance – Rick Follman/Louise Follman**

- The chairs have been getting a lot of calls about delivery of refrigerated and controlled drugs. Deliver provider will call you to be sure you’re home. If you’re not they send the drugs back to Caremark.
  - Rick reported that diabetics who want a 90 day supply of medication will need to undergo certain tests by their physician.
  - The TRB interviewed 3 companies and chose Joe Fields as their health consultant. His consultant fee is being deducted out of the HIPA...
5. Rick suggested we try to get MEDCO back...

**Historian – John Kane**

- John wants to keep updating our retired teacher history with the CT State Historical Society.

**Old Business:**

Michael Norman and Wayne Woodtke requested funds be appropriated for new laptop computers for each of them. We have spent an additional \$200 to clean viruses from Michael’s hard drive and now Wayne’s hard drive is not working. The original ACER laptops were purchased as refurbished through Pratt & Whitney in 2008. The original warranty was for 90 days after purchase. MOTION: Appropriate a budget of \$1,500 to purchase new laptop computers. (T. Singleton / B. Scalzo) PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**New Business:**

We received a thank you from Denise Napier for supporting her in her quest for treasurer.

**Adjourned 2:18 pm**

Respectfully submitted:

Margo Chase-Wells, ARTC Secretary/wpw