

AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 161
February 2025 Membership Meeting Minutes

The February 19, 2025, membership meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. Diane, Dave, Ida, John, Jesse, Tony, and MacArthur were the officers and executive board members present. Diane presided.

We had a free lunch raffle, and Irene won it.

The guest speaker was Krystle Able, the executive director of the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans (IARA). She talked about recent federal government activities and their potential impact on seniors. She pointed out that Trump had openly suggested cuts to Social Security and Medicaid, and she advised us to pay attention to what is happening rather than what is said.

Ida introduced new members. One of them was Maureen Ruder. Maureen worked for Cook County Hospital as an ob-gyn, and she is now retired. The other new members were Ron and Mary Wisniewski. Ron worked with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. (Dave asked him if he could work as an auditor with us.) Mary said she didn't work for the State of Illinois but is a retired social worker.

Tony read the January 2025 minutes, Dave moved to accept them, Ida seconded the motion, and it passed.

Jesse gave the secretary/treasurer's report for February 2025, and we approved it.

We discussed the upcoming audit. Diane said we need to elect a new trustee in April. John moved that we authorize up to \$200 toward the

election in April and up to \$2,000 for a flyer to recruit new members. Dave seconded the motion, and it passed.

Dave said we should allow our subchapter to support the media. He moved that Jesse send \$100 checks to Free Speech TV, the *Guardian*, WTTW, and Chicago Public Media (both WBEZ and the *Sun Times*) as well as the ACLU. Pat seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane said we needed to update our email lists because not everyone was getting emails from AFSCME.

Ida moved to adjourn, Iris seconded the motion, and we adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Tony Zappia, Recording Secretary