

AFSCME Retirees' Subchapter 161 May 2025 Executive Board Meeting Minutes

The May 14, 2025, executive board meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m.

Diane, Dave, John, Tony, Jesse, MacArthur, and Ida were the officers and executive board members present. Diane presided.

Tony read the minutes for the May 2025 executive board meeting. John moved to accept them, Dave seconded the motion, and after some discussion, it passed.

Jesse read the May 2025 secretary/treasurer's report. Someone moved to accept the report, someone else seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane said we needed to renew our membership in Citizen Action. She said Chapter 31, the retirees' chapter, pays our dues and we should write a check for dinner. She also said she, Jesse, and Phil had driven to Normal and it had cost \$300. Dave moved that we cover the mileage for the trip, someone seconded the motion, and it passed.

John said Sweet Basil's, the restaurant where we currently hold our membership meetings, was having lots of changes and difficulties. He said Curt's Café in Evanston was a nonprofit and trained students for the food service industry. He also said the meeting room at Curt's was the right size for us. He told us Curt's Café was at 2922 Central Road, three miles due east of Sweet Basil's, and had street parking with a meter that had a two-hour limit. But then he added that there was free street parking a block away. He also said Curt's menu may be better than Sweet Basil's.

Dave said the meeting room at Curt's Café was smaller than the one we have now. He asked if people wanted to visit the café to see what it's got.

MacArthur said our membership would grow as things happened that would bring people out.

Diane said Jesse would have to be near the cash register for the free meals.

Later in the meeting, Dave said Curt's Café would be having renovations that would take two months, so it wouldn't be ready until August. MacArthur said there was a restaurant with a deli (Max and Benny's) in Northbrook on Waukegan Road near the expressway.

Ida said singing should be saved for the ends of meetings. She said that during meetings, there should be no singing or jokes and we should get straight to business. She also said that everyone had a right to speak during meetings but there was a three-minute limit and people should hold their questions until the end.

John advised Ida to just make it clear that the e-board was giving her full powers as the parliamentarian. He asked whether she wanted to use a gavel or an airhorn.

Diane said the whole idea was to maximize democracy.

Ida said that at the board meetings she attends, the leader prints out an agenda and follows it. Dave said there are some things we need to mention on the spur of the moment. John said that no one could speak unless they were recognized by the chair and that this would be enforced by the parliamentarian. Dave said that announcements should come first, and Diane said announcements come from people who are active in the movement. She also said we shouldn't have the same people talking over and over.

Diane said the Republican majority in the Senate wanted to cut Medicare and Medicaid. She also said she, Phil, and Jesse had gone to Darin LaHood's office. Jesse said LaHood wasn't in on the day of the protest in Normal. And she told us the Illinois Single Payer Coalition would

hold a pro-Medicaid demonstration in the Loop on Saturday, May 31, at 11:30 a.m.

Diane said there would be membership outreach plans for activities with other subchapters and locals. She also said city colleges were still working on getting an elected board. And she told us Fran had promised to have a speaker on Medicare and Medicaid at the next meeting.

John moved to adjourn, Dave seconded the motion, and we adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Tony Zappia, Recording Secretary