

AFSCME Retirees' Subchapter 161 January 2026 Members' Meeting Minutes

The January 21, 2026, members' meeting was called to order at 12:21 p.m. Diane, Dave, Jesse, Tony, John, Ida, and MacArthur were the officers and executive board members present. Diane presided.

Ida told us to keep down our personal conversations.

Our speaker was Willie Shaw, the head of the Political Action Committee of the Evanston NAACP. She spoke about the NAACP and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Dave held a drawing for the free lunch, and Ida won.

Tony read the September minutes, Dave moved to approve them, John seconded the motion, and it passed. Then Tony read the November minutes, John moved to accept them, Ida seconded the motion, and it passed. Finally, Tony read the December minutes, John moved to approve them, MacArthur seconded the motion, and it passed.

Jesse gave the financial report, John moved to accept it, Ida seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane said we needed to start with the budget for the new year, the audit, and the election that would take place in April.

Diane told us there were going to be four quarterly e-board meetings in Springfield and she, the subchapter president, would be the only voting member. She said we needed to authorize up to \$3,000 for these meetings. John moved to allocate \$3,000 for the 2026 state e-board meetings, Dave seconded the motion, and it passed. Then John moved to authorize \$200 to give Willie Shaw for the Evanston NAACP, Shannon seconded this motion, and it passed.

Someone said there would be a fundraiser for the Alliance for Community Services (ACS) in March. John moved that we donate \$2,000 to the ACS, Dave seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane told us the Prescription Drug Affordability Board would lobby in Springfield on Tuesday, February 17, starting at 9:00 a.m., and she, Phil, MacArthur, Iris, Dave, and possibly Jesse would attend. She said they would take two cars but would not need a hotel. John moved to authorize \$2,000 for this trip, Jesse seconded the motion, and after some discussion, it passed.

Pat moved that the winner of the free lunch save their receipt, and Jesse reimbursed them for the meal immediately. Peter moved that Jesse give the winner \$25 to use for the next month's lunch. Diane recommended that we table the motion until the next month. John moved to postpone the discussion, Peter seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane asked us to endorse John Tilden as trustee of the SERS board. She told us that on the following Saturday there would be a PEOPLE meeting on legislative and candidate endorsements. She said the meeting would take place in Springfield from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., so we would need to drive there on Friday night.

Diane told us we had flyers showing when and where our subchapter meets. She said people who had contact with members of local union chapters they used to belong to should bring our flyers to the Prescription Drug Affordability Board lobbying day.

Tisa told us that the next morning, Jack Smith would testify on the investigation of Trump's involvement in the January 6 insurrection. Karl pointed out that Jack Smith was the special prosecutor and informed us that the investigation would air on MS NOW and Midas Touch (YouTube). Wolé said it would air at 9:00 a.m. CST. We also discussed the general strike that would take place in Minneapolis on the upcoming Friday.

Dave moved to adjourn, Pat seconded the motion, and we ended the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Tony Zappia, Recording Secretary