

## **AFSCME Retirees' Subchapter 161 September 2025 Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

The September 10, 2025, executive board meeting was called to order at 12:13 p.m.

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

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

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

John said he had new microphones that cost less than \$200. He asked Ida to tell people at the membership meeting to speak directly into the top of the mics. Jesse moved to allocate \$107.14 to pay for the microphones, Dave seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane told us the next membership meeting would take place after the convention in Springfield. She said that on Tuesday, October 14, there would be officers' training from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. She announced that the retirees' convention would start at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 15, at Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Diane said the AFSCME active workers' convention would take place on Friday, October 17, and we would only be guests there. She suggested canceling the October membership meeting.

Regarding the next membership meeting, Diane informed us that Sweet Basil had extended its hours and increased its staff. Dave said Sweet Basil seemed to be going out of business. He pointed out that lunch had been late. He also mentioned that we had to set up and break down their tables on our own.

Dave talked about Curt's Café. He said it had its pros and cons. He mentioned that it had a better menu and was doing something for the

community. Then Dave stated that it seated only 25 people, had rickety chairs, and wasn't ready yet. Ida mentioned that there was a problem with parking, and Dave told us non-metered parking was a block and a half away in either direction.

Dave asked us to also consider Paterno's, an Italian restaurant and sports bar at 5303 Milwaukee Avenue, which is west of Central and north of Foster in Chicago. He said it had an excellent menu, affordable prices, and a large meeting room. On the other hand, he mentioned that the door to the meeting room is not closed. John told us Paterno's charges \$100 one way or another and suggested that we try it out by holding our October 2025 e-board meeting there.

Jesse informed us he was writing a letter to the EHS, requesting space on the first floor of their building. Diane said she liked the Greiner Center as a membership meeting venue, and Dave pointed out that we could have Curt's Café cater for us there.

Diane said we should spend more time on outreach.

Diane told us that on Saturday, September 13, the Illinois Alliance for Retired Americans (IARA) 2025 Biennial Convention would take place in Ottawa. She said she, Phil, MacArthur, Dave, and Jesse would travel there the day before, rent four motel rooms near Ottawa, and check in at 3:00 p.m. She explained that the convention would begin on Saturday morning and last until 4:00 p.m., so they would be paying for breakfast and lunch.

Diane informed us that on Thursday, September 18, there would be a discussion on Medicare and Medicaid at the Kelly Library at 6151 South Normal in Chicago. She said the meeting would start at 5:30 p.m. and be available on Zoom.

Diane told us that some of our members would go to officers' training sessions at Crowne Plaza. She said MacArthur, Iris, Jesse, and Dave would attend the financial training session and she, Phil, Iris, and Karl

would go to presidential and vice-presidential training. She mentioned that Karl would also attend the convention. Diane said they would put their hotel bills on Jesse's credit card.

Diane informed us that the Alliance for Community Services (ACS) would be holding an event at 637 South Dearborn Street in Chicago from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21. She said she, Phil, John, MacArthur, Jesse, Karl, Iris, and Dave would be attending. She assured us there would be free parking.

John moved to cancel the October membership meeting, Jesse seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane suggested that we lend our mics to ACS.

Diane told us the IARA would be holding a power luncheon at the Teachers' Union Building at 1901 Carroll Street from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22. She said there would be free parking.

Diane informed us that on Monday, September 15, St. Paul's Catholic Church at 22<sup>nd</sup> Place and Hoyne would hold El Grito to commemorate Father Hidalgo's Grito de Dolores, which called out for Mexican resistance to Spanish rule. She said non-Latinos would be welcome and advised us to arrive early in the morning and wear white masks.

Ida moved to adjourn, John seconded the motion, and we adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Tony Zappia, Recording Secretary