

AFSCME Retirees Subchapter 161 September 2025 Members' Meeting Minutes

The September 17, 2025, members' meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. Dave, Tony, Diane, Jesse, Ida, John, and MacArthur were the officers and executive board members present. Diane presided.

Ida asked us to raise our hands when we wanted to speak.

John introduced the speaker, Fran Tobin. Fran spoke on long-term care. He also said the Alliance Builder Award Dinner would take place on Tuesday, October 21, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., at Grace Place at 637 South Dearborn. Dave told Fran we appreciated the work he was doing.

Dave held the free lunch raffle, and John won it.

Jesse asked if anyone had come for the first time, so he could arrange for the subchapter to pay for any newcomers' lunches.

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

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

Diane suggested that we skip the October members' meeting because the AFSCME Retirees Convention would take place during the third week of the month. Dave said the next membership meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 19.

Diane told us she had received an email asking her to turn in reservations for the Illinois Labor History Society dinner, which would take place on Friday, November 21, at 5:00 p.m. at the IBEW Hall at

2722 Martin Luther King Drive. She assured us there would be free parking and said she, Phil, Dave, MacArthur, Jesse, Iris, John, and Violet planned to go. Dave moved to authorize \$900 for a table, Jesse seconded the motion, and it passed.

Diane told us Thomas Suhrber will speak about his new book, *Public Education and Social Reform: A History of the Illinois Education Association*, at the November members' meeting.

Marlene informed us that Aetna had dropped Endeavor, and the Endeavor system was no longer accepting Aetna. Diane advised us to contact Maria in Springfield about this. But Dave assured us that it wouldn't affect anyone on Trail. Tisa said Aetna representatives had asked her to visit Oak Street Health Clinic and encouraged her to use CVS rather than other pharmacies. Diane stated that we were not required to switch to their pharmacies or accept home visits. Pat asked if anyone knew why Endeavor had canceled Aetna. Someone responded by saying that no one knew exactly why but that Aetna had done something Endeavor didn't like.

Ida said our annual rate as retirees was 3%. Karl said it was 3% compounded but Tier 2 wasn't compounded. Dorothy stated that when we retire, we get our pensions with 3% added. Bill said that it was like an annuity and wasn't meant to keep up with inflation. Diane pointed out that both Republicans and Democrats had taken a pension holiday and blamed the workers for it. Marlene said we had voted for a pension increase rather than a salary increase.

Violet moved to adjourn, Jesse seconded the motion, and we adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Tony Zappia, Recording Secretary