

Minutes for Dec 13, 2011

CSEA/SEIU 418/4Cs

11:30 12:30

907 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford

1. Meeting called to order at 11:30.
2. Attendance: Esther Alaimo, Janet Cosgrove, Elaine Folkers, Ray Mercik, Bette Marafino, Felipe Flores, Suzanne Flores, Bill Tyszka, Marilyn Tyszka, Mushiba, Greg Hager, Ellie Lowell, Bill Searle Guests: Mary Van Buren and Kit Collette
3. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted as presented.
4. Both the November and December Treasurer's reports presented by Bill Tyszka were accepted as presented.
5. We discussed the value of having a "Legislative Day" in lieu of a January meeting and decided that this is a good idea. Leadership will get out information, after checking legislative calendars. We will try to get a day in late January after the legislature is in session, but before the crowd has descended. The purpose is to talk to local representatives and senators about retiree needs, community college needs, and state citizen needs as we see them. Information will go out to the membership when we have a date.
6. Bill S brought up that we need to revise our Nominating Committee membership since this committee needs to start work in February. Ray Mercik and Ellie Lowell were proposed as new members, joining Connie Carter and Greg Hager. Ray and Ellie were nominated, seconded and elected to the committee.

Bill S mentioned that anyone who wishes to serve as an officer of the Chapter (President, Vice-President (2 VP's), Secretary, Treasurer, or delegate to the CSEA Council, or as a member of the Audit Committee or Nominating Committee should Contact a member of the Nominating Committee or himself. Nominations will be open until April.

7. Medicare Alert: The Medicare Alert sent out by CSEA to all retirees was shared and members were urged to spread the word to other retirees. It is extremely important that people both use their Silverscript card (just sent out) and ***NOT opt-out of the of the state medical and prescription drug plans!***
8. Bette brought up the need to do significant legislative work this year. We will participate in the Alliance for Retired Americans "Advocacy Day" at the Capitol this April. More details to follow.
9. Long-Term Care Insurance. Following up on our November speaker – members are urged to look carefully at their personal financial planning and personal situation to see if LTC insurance is something they need to consider. Costs will go up in early January. Additional information is available at www.ctpartnership.org or through the state OPM at 860-418-6365. This seems like an important issue for all members to consider carefully.
10. Old Business – CSEA news. The resolution that we passed at our November meeting, to request that CSEA actively support the Alliance for Retired Americans campaign to

influence the “Super Committee” to avoid cuts to Social Security and Medicare was presented at the CSEA meeting and accepted! ***CSEA will support these efforts.***

11. Bill S reminded members that the retirees section of the 4C’s website (www.the4cs.org) has been extensively reworked. Members are urged to visit and provide feedback to him. Also, members are encouraged to write a short piece on some aspect of retirement aimed at either our own members or for members of the 4C’s who need to prepare for retirement.
12. ***The Chapter thanked Mary Van Buren and Kit Collette from the 4C’s office for their strong support of our efforts, as well as Steve Cohen, 4C’s President.***

Meeting adjourned at 12:30.

Bill Searle
January 2, 2012