



Retired Public Employees Council Chapter 28 – University of Washington

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 16th, 2024
Meeting Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Meeting Location: The Claim Jumper Restaurant
Meeting Address: 5901 180th St, Tukwila, WA 98188

WELCOME MEMBERS & FRIENDS! PLEASE JOIN US!

AGENDA

11:00 AM Arrival – Welcome – Introductions & Announcements (Place Lunch Orders); Chapter covers up to \$20 per member. Members pay for additional amounts, guests & spirits.

GOOD NEWS – WE HAVE DONE IT AGAIN!

It's official! For the third year in a row, PERS 1 and TRS 1 retirees will receive a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). On Tuesday, March 26, Governor Jay Inslee signed Substitute House Bill 1985, providing Plan 1 retirees with a one-time 3% COLA not to exceed \$110 per month. The COLA will be reflected in pension checks received at the end of July 2024.

THANK YOU to CH 28 member Zaida Zapata Quimby, for sharing “your story,” and CH 03 member & RPEC Executive Board member, Claude Burfect for your advocacy and leadership! Thank you, Council staff and members, for supporting, advocating, and sharing your stories. **TOGETHER WE MADE A DIFFERENCE!**

The bill was sponsored by Representative Joe Timmons, a freshman Democrat representing part of Bellingham and rural Whatcom County. In his short time in the Legislature, Timmons has quickly earned a reputation as an effective advocate for retirees. In 2023, he introduced and passed House Bill 1431, which exempts meals prepared for tenants at senior living communities from sales tax.

- 12:00 PM Business Meeting: Period Feb.- March, 2024
- Officer Reports (Secretary, Treasurer, President, District 9 Rep.)
February 2024 Minutes – Benester Fields, Secretary
 - Financial Report – (Feb.-March 2024)
Juanita Taylor, Treasurer
President’s Report – Mary Marbles,
District 9 Report – Alma-jean Marion,
District 9 Representative
 - New Business
- 12:45 PM Sunshine Report – Menia Traxler
1:00 PM Adjournment



Claude Burfect (D9 Rep.) & Zaida Quimby (Ch 28) with Governor Inslee



Claude Burfect, Exec. Dir. Laurie Weidner, Rep. Timmons, Zaida Quimby, Sec. Nancy Heley, Gov. Affairs Coordinator Emmett Mills



Exec. Dir. Laurie Weidner, Gov. Affairs Coordinator Emmett Mills, Rep. Leavitt, Zaida Quimby, Sec. Nancy Heley, and WEA-R President Mary Lindsey

Mary Marbles, CH 28 President

RPEC Chapter 28 Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Called to order by President Mary Marbles with a welcome to all @ 11:28 AM

Meeting conducted in-person Claim Jumper Restaurant

President Marbles opened meeting with a prayer @ 11:28 AM

Roll call of officers present:

Mary Marbles (**President**); Alma-jean Marion (**Vice-President & District 9 Representative**) **excused absence**; Neomi Ramsey (**Trustee**); Juanita Taylor (**Treasurer**); Benester Fields (**Secretary**); James Bals (**Trustee**)

Roll call of members present:

Kathy Craig; Rosemary Rognstad; Richard J Rognstad; Eva Leverett; John Hampton; Jean Aarvis; Sean Harvig; Jane Coughlan; Charles Cooper; Zaida Quinby

Guests:

Bill Ziegler, CH 35 - Former RPEC Exec Board Member

Roll call of officers by Secretary

Review of written minutes for October 17, 2023, by attendees. M/S/C.

President Report: Mary Marbles

- During our break Mary contacted several chapter members to check-in including our Vice President Alma-jean Marion who is ill. Mary attended the MLK Jr. breakfast at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel. The Derrick Wheeler Smith award was awarded.
- On January 31, the Chapter 28 membership roster was received.
- Mary announced the CBTU convention will be held May 2024 in Houston, Texas.

Treasurer Report: Juanita Taylor

- Reporting period December 1, 2023-January 31, 2024
- Treasurer report submitted and reviewed by members
- Chapter Officers will meet to prepare projection budget for the present year 2024

M/S/C to accept treasurer's report as given.

District 9 Representative Report

Reporting for Alma jean Marion: Bill Ziegler

- RPEC Strategic Plan handouts 2023-2027
- Includes RPEC set of goals that we hope to achieve in the upcoming years
- Alma-jean is on the Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee.
- Matching resources to accomplishments
- Membership communication
- Federal advocacy
- Membership/leadership assisting some chapters that have financial challenges

Discussion

Old Business

- No invited speaker for this meeting
- Members proposed upcoming speakers
- Ana Mari Cauce - **UW President**
- Representative of Washington State Insurance Board
- Health Care Authority to review in depth Medicare coverage
- Rep from PEBB, questions regarding Medicare vs Medicare Advantage
- Jim Bals assigned to contact Health Care Authority

New Business

- Recruitment of membership to become delegates to the RPEC Convention being held September 24th-26th 2024 in Wenatchee, WA. The President has reinforced if you attend you remain for the entirety of the convention, attending workshop sessions so that you are reimbursed
- Request proposal submitted by Mary Marbles requesting membership approval to finance her trip and attendance to the CBTU convention in Houston. All costs have been submitted.

- o M/S/C approve costs of attending convention.
- RPEC Executive Board meeting will be held February 26, 2024 via Zoom. Jim Bals and Bill Ziegler will attend.

M/S/P Meeting adjourned by President Mary Marbles @12:20 P.M.

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Benester- Fields Secretary

New Members:

- Cynthia McClurg, Gig Harbor
- Catherine Purdy, Seattle

In Memory of:

- Catalino Abuan, Mountlake Terrace
- Richard Betts, Medical Lake
- Erika Clawson, Kenmore
- Joan Ham, Bothell
- George Nishi, Seattle
- Rosemarie Petersen, Kirkland
- Mavis Vogel, Seattle

CHAPTER 28 OFFICERS

Mary Marbles, President	(206) 295-6231	mmarbles46@icloud.com
Alma-jean Marion, Vice President	(206) 721-3088	alma-jean@comcast.net
Benester Fields, Secretary	(206) 722-6755	bienestar111@yahoo.com
Juanita Taylor, Treasurer	(253) 236-4047	missroxy5@yahoo.com
Jim Bals, Trustee	(206) 932-0547	jdbals11@gmail.com
Neoma Ramsey, Trustee	(253) 854-0107	sweetne2004@hotmail.com

April 2024 Executive Director's Report

Convention 2024, Sept. 24-26, Wenatchee Convention Center

Are you interested in serving as a chapter delegate to RPEC's biennial Convention? You do not need to be an officer or chapter committee leader to attend. Any member in good standing is eligible to serve as delegate. If you are interested in being considered for your chapter's delegation to Convention, contact your chapter president. Delegates are chosen by election at a chapter meeting. If you are selected to represent your chapter, your Convention registration fee and lodging will be covered by your chapter. Guests may also attend at their own expense. The registration fee is \$150, which covers the Convention packet and all meals. The Convention hotel is the Coast Wenatchee. The RPEC rate is \$116.00 per night before taxes and fees. Visit www.rpecwa.org for more details or contact your chapter president.

Federal Advocacy

Call to action on The Fiscal Commission Act of 2023: If you have not already done so, please join your fellow RPEC members and AFSCME Retiree chapters nationwide in urging Congress to oppose The Fiscal Commission Act of 2023 (H.R. 5779). If this legislation is approved, your federal benefits will be at risk. [The Fiscal Commission Act of 2023 \(H.R. 5779\)](#) will create a 16-member fiscal commission to search for ways to reduce the national deficit and balance the national budget. Funding for Social Security and Medicare will be targeted for cuts. **Call 844-331-0441 today! Tell Congress to vote NO on this bill and similar proposals calling for fiscal commissions that aim to reduce your hard-earned retirement benefits.** A detailed [position paper](#) about the proposed debt commission is available at <https://retiredamericans.org>.

Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) To Vote on Potential New Pharmacy Benefit, April 11

On April 11, the PEB Board will act on a resolution that will change the pharmacy benefit for Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic Medicare. RPEC's Legislative Committee supports this change, as it will lower monthly premiums for most plan subscribers. The medical benefits in the plan will remain unchanged. The new pharmacy benefit will continue to be administered by Moda to provide continuity of service and care for retirees. By making this plan more affordable, the new benefit, if adopted at the April PEB Board meeting, will help to ensure that an employer-managed plan remains

in the mix of healthcare plan options available to public sector retirees. Currently, all but two plans are privatized. Preserving traditional Medicare continues to be a key federal priority for RPEC, in addition to preserving these options for the public sector retirees in Washington. Members are encouraged to attend the April 11 meeting and offer comments during the Public Comment period. Visit www.hca.wa.gov for more details.

State Advocacy

Beginning this month, the Legislative Update Calls will be held monthly, the first Friday of each month. Please join us on April 5 from 2-3 p.m. Details are available at www.rpecwa.org.

Council Welcomes New Team Member

Jane Hewitt joined RPEC in mid-March as our new Finance and Operations Specialist. Jane brings more than 40 years of relevant work experience to RPEC. She is married with grandchildren, originally hails from Great Britain, and is an animal lover with three rescue pets. Jane can be reached at jane.hewitt@rpecwa.org. Please give her a warm welcome to RPEC!

Upcoming Events

Visit www.rpecwa.org for a full calendar of Council Office and chapter meetings.

- April 11 Public Employees Benefits Board (9:00 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- April 11 Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- April 12 Legislative Committee (10 a.m.)
- April 16 Select Committee on Pension Policy (10 a.m.)
- April 19 Pension Policy Workgroup (10 a.m.)
- April 25 Membership Committee (10 a.m.)
- April 25 Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- May 3 Legislative Update Call (2:00 p.m.)
- May 6 Executive Board Meeting (9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- May 7 Executive Board Meeting, Strategic Planning (9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
- May 8 Public Service Recognition Week (at Heritage Park, Olympia)
- May 9 Public Employees Benefits Board (9 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- May 9 Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)

RPEC STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Toll Free: **1-800-562-6097** – Direct: **360-352-8262**

Executive Director	Laurie Weidner	laurie.weidner@rpecwa.org	ext. 101
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Administrative Project Coordinator	Alissa Brady	alissa.brady@rpecwa.org	ext. 100

www.rpecwa.org

Member Birthdays

APRIL

Janet E Pearson
Leo E Ball
Joan Mc Daniel
Aurelia A Turner
Loretta E Radnich
Shirley G Jacobs
Rosemary Rognstad
Patricia E Simmons
Alice L Gronski
Marina S Ferguson

Marie I Doman
Trudy F Geissler
Elizabeth Mulligan
Candace Plog
Marie L Hurlbut
Zheng Chen
Katherine Gordon
Thomas P. Riley
Nedra Pautler
Margaret Frest

Janet Miller
Katherine Guiberteaux
Nancy Healy
Heechun Huh
Clarine Dunn
Catherine Purdy
Celeste R Stubbs
Jeanne Tagliente-Wolf

MAY

Gloria C Smith
Barbara Mercer
Stanley L Goldstein
Sally A Little
Gary D Cole
Sonia C Camero
Antonio Fontanilla
Lawrence Gales

Gene A Washington
Jane E Debrock
Anita A. Whitney
Francis J Zellner
Ingrid K Pearson
Amelia C Baluca
Soraya S Clemans
John Gofman

Nancy Kloster
Juanita R Taylor
Louis A Rivas
Susan Qualls
Betty Garvida
Karen Laemmler
Maryrose Trubiroha
Marilyn Dominguez-Aquino

