



Retired Public Employees Council Chapter 37 – Lynnwood Area

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**Meeting Date: Thursday,
October 2, 2025**

Meeting Time: 1:00 PM

Our meeting will be both in-person and on Zoom.

Computer Login Info:

Go to <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 875 2765 8007

Passcode: 108208

Phone Login Info:

Dial: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 875 2765 8007

Phone Passcode: 108208

Meeting Location:

Mountlake Terrace Library
23300 58th Ave W

Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

October 2, 2025 Speaker

Is Elyette Weinstein

She graduated from Rutgers University in 1972 and NYU Law School in 1975. She worked for the federal and state governments as well as the City of Seattle in labor law related areas such as age discrimination, retirement, safety, and health and wage cases.

Her last job was for the State Dept of Health as a staff attorney. She always wanted to work for a union. Her first chance was to join RPEC after retirement.

She has represented RPEC on the Public Employee Benefits Board since 2020.

RPEC Chapter 37 September 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1:15 pm at the Mountlake Terrace Library, both in person and by Zoom.

Call to order: Officers: Bill Dehmer, President, present; Terri Ludwick, Vice President, present; Kathy Chapman, Treasurer, present; Secretary, not filled.

Executive Board representatives: Brenda Williams, present; Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, present remotely. **District Representative,** Cheryl, present.

Introductions of members and guests: Darlene, Lillian, Elizabeth, Susan, Bonnie.

Members' Concerns/Input:

Discussion with members about current concerns. PERS 1 plan for future COLA, and status of the Executive Director leaving. The legislative meetings will be held by zoom this Friday at 2 PM. You can access it by viewing the calendar on the RPEC site.

Encouraged members to sign up for the RPEC site so they can access more information. Bonnie brought up connecting with those retired people, getting them to become members, she still has contacts and if we have names she could reach out to those she previously worked with. These are ideas to include in the membership recruitment discussions

District 1 Report: Cheryl Moser, the District representative, gave an update on the job search for a new Executive Director. The Executive board will interview an internal candidate then determine if a larger search will be conducted.

In August the Executive Board met and approved of the budget. Last year RPEC spent \$100,000 on a blind mailing. These costs increases are increasing the deficit RPEC is facing.

RPEC PAC: Adrienne presented that the PAC has made decisions on providing funds to legislators who support RPEC priorities. Next report will be in January.

Minutes for Approval: June 5, 2025, Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Motion made to accept by Kathy/second by Darlene/passed.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy presented the June, July, and August financial reports. With clarification that Kathy will check with the accountant for an expense of \$14.97 for printing a postcard we have not had this service. Motion made to accept by Brenda/second by Terry/passed. From the meeting in June Kathy rolled over the CD.

Guest speaker: Ruth Griffith, Sno-Isle Librarian.

She presented information on access to the library services. In addition to loaning books, magazines, books on CDs, Digital, and E books they also have newspapers online, movies through Canopy and Hoopla. On a monthly basis they have events in house and online. Other interesting items are the ability to print up to \$7.00 per week and scan documents for free. For those who do not have a hot spot for computers they have a bag you can check out for projects. If your interest is the parks they have a Discover pass for day use. Data bases are also a resource so you can access ancestry or my heritage.

They also provide many online learning tools. If all this is too much to comprehend just call the library and book a time to speak with a librarian.

Guest speaker for our October meeting: Elyette Weinstein

Other speaker topics: Verdant speaker, financial advisor, AFSCME, Insurance Commissioner (car/home), Council 2, and Agency on Aging Adults. Other ideas?

Membership Committee: Darlene reported we have 192 members according to the last membership report in July. She has not received one since. There was discussion about the discrepancy about members numbers since we have not had a drop list of over 30 members our per capita is 223 members as of August. It was later confirmed that our Chapter 27 has 232 members.

Bill brought up the need to make a new membership plan for recruitment, retention and succession planning. Anyone interested in meeting to discuss this plan, please talk with Bill.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

Drawing for 2 \$25 gift cards: Brenda and Elizabeth. They both signed for the gift cards on the membership sign-in sheet.

Adjournment at 2:50 PM

Sign up for text alerts: Just text RPEC to 237263
This is great for quick legislative information.

Stay informed by signing into the new RPEC website. Note as a member you will see more information. Just register at the site. Go to RPECWA.ORG then to the member area, my account, and register new account. RPEC will confirm you are a member so you can see updated information.

SEPTEMBER 2025 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Fall is my favorite time of year, especially here in the PNW. Right after Labor Day, I begin dragging out the boxes of decorations filled with pumpkin-themed items for my home. Some people dread new seasons ... I never have. I always embrace and welcome them. New beginnings are the spice of life! As some of you may have heard, I am embarking on a new season – a new chapter – of my life in 2026. The Executive Board accepted my letter of resignation. I will continue working through the end of December. The decision to leave full-time employment at a place that I love was not an easy one for me. I wrestled with this decision for months. My time at RPEC has been a deeply rewarding season of my 40-year career. I will share more with you in future Executive Director Reports through December.

With our dynamic policy and legislative agenda, we have a great deal more to accomplish together before my departure. So, roll up your sleeves, and get ready to dive into our legislative work this fall. Please read your emails, as I will be calling upon you for assistance.

Hiring Process for New Executive Director

On August 4th during the Executive Session of the Executive Board meeting, the Board accepted my resignation and identified a path forward for the selection of my replacement. A Hiring Committee, composed of the organization's officers and four Executive Board members (with extensive hiring experience), will lead the hiring process. Here is the approved Board motion: task the Hiring Committee to conduct interview of the Associate Director and bring a recommendation to the Executive Board to either appoint or do a broader search and allow the Associate Director to compete in the broader search.

Executive Board Approves 2026 Operating Budget with Projected Deficit

At the Board's regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, August 4th, the Board approved the organization's operating budget for 2026. RPEC continues to operate with a structural deficit because the organization's only source of revenue (member dues), is outpaced by operating expenses. In addition, the organization's new revenue, which is generated through a large direct mailing to prospective members, did not produce the anticipated returns this year, resulting in lower revenue projections for next year. This approved budget includes the following: a virtual Legislative Day/Week; continued Zoom meetings for all standing committees, workgroups and the Executive Board; no more photocopied and mailed materials (Legislative Day/Week, standing committees, Executive Board or Leadership Training); and one in-person meeting for the newly elected Executive Board in November 2026, following the biennial Convention. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to me at laurie.weidner@rpecwa.org.

Updated Associate Membership Program to Be Available This Fall

At the August Executive Board meeting, the Executive Board also approved the parameters for an updated Associate Membership Program – shaped by the statewide Membership Committee and Council Office. Public sector employees who are within 18 months of retirement are eligible to join RPEC as Associate Members. To elevate the value of Associate membership and to increase the number of members who transition from Associate to full membership upon retirement, Associate members will pay a nominal fee to cover production and mailing costs for the resources they receive from RPEC, and in return they will receive their first 3 months of full membership for free if they become a dues paying member. The program will be officially launched in early fall. Jakob Canup, Membership Coordinator, is available this fall to speak to your members about the program to enlist their help in recruiting new members. Contact Jakob at jakob.canup@rpecwa.org.

Register Today for PEBB Open Enrollment Webinar, September 26

Do you receive your healthcare benefits through the Public Employees Benefits Board? If so, register to attend an informational webinar hosted by Health Care Authority staff to prepare our members for open enrollment. Register on the RPEC website under Calendar & Events → Upcoming Events & Educational Webinars → PEBB Open Enrollment for 2026 Webinar, or at <https://rpecwa.org/pebb-open-enrollment-for-2026-webinar/>. **The deadline to register is Sept. 19th.** If you have questions, please call Jakob Canup, Membership Coordinator, at 360-352-8262, ext. 106. In addition to this webinar on September 26th.

New resources for PEBB & Medicare Open Enrollment Periods

By late September, you will have access to special resources to prepare you for either PEBB Open Enrollment (Oct. 27-Nov.24) or Medicare Open Enrollment (Oct. 15 through Dec. 7). The new resources include recorded webinars covering the PEBB plans, as well as the new Medicare Open Enrollment Jumpstart Tool Kit from the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA). A member-only informational Zoom program, slated for November 7th, will feature SHIBA Program Director Tim Smolen. More details will be available soon at www.rpecwa.org.

Important Dates

Visit the RPEC website at www.rpecwa.org for the full calendar:

- Sept. 25: Membership Committee (10:00 a.m.)
Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- Sep. 26: PEBB Open Enrollment Informational Webinar (10:00 a.m.)
- Oct. 3: Legislative Update Call (2:00 p.m.)
- Oct. 9: Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 10: Legislative Committee (10:00 a.m.)
- Oct. 17: Executive Board Work Session (10:00 a.m.)