

ERS Steering Board Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2021

Attendees included Dave Baine, Dick Beham, Steve Ellis, Jim Ewing, Bob Ferguson, Joan and Myrv Johansen, John Neller, Dwight Rousu, Dave Watt, and Dave Westman.

ERS Steering Board Chair Dwight Rousu called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. This was a virtual meeting via Zoom, including those of us who attended by telephone. We were told that our ERS membership numbers had not changed since our last meeting and that we had a quorum. John Neller volunteered to give the travel report and with this change the agenda was approved.

Minutes: Jim Ewing's minutes of the May 2021 ERS steering board meeting were approved as published.

President's Report: Dave Baine reported that the SPEEA website has a tribute to our late president, Tom McCarty. Dave told us that partial staffing and social-distancing rules made it unrealistic for us to hold ERS meetings at the Tukwila SPEEA hall.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Ferguson reported that we had \$2931.97 in checking, \$27,608.98 in savings, and \$20,230.84 in CDs. The CDs mature on August 29, 2021.

Steering Board Chair's Report: Dwight Rousu told us that he had put out our September 2021 ERS newsletter.

Committee Reports: Membership Chair John Neller reported that our membership numbers had not changed since our last steering board meeting. We have 122 members who last paid dues for 2020 and 635 members who last paid dues for 2021. Our total membership, including two honorary members, is 943. The total for NRLN dues is 811 members. We have 55 members who receive paper copies of our newsletter. Our NRLN representative, Steve Ellis, told us that NRLN recommends that we call our representatives in Congress and leave messages. Steve added that NRLN might have a fly-in (meeting) in February or March 2022.

Programs Chair Dave Watt said that the speaker at our September quarterly membership meeting would be Tina Clark from Caring Solutions, and that Tina's subject would be senior relocation, downsizing, and estate sales. Investments Chair Dave Watt announced that the speaker at our September investment meeting would be Jared Adams with the law firm Condie Adams and that Jared's topic would be "Changes to Lifetime Estate Tax Deduction and Updating Wills, Trusts, and Supporting Documents." Service Chair Dick Beham told us that Bluebills are now having monthly in-person meetings.

Sunshine Cochair Myrv Johansen told us of the passings of Leon Hill, Arthur B. Wait, Tom McCarty, Craig Buckham, John Lorenzen, Omar Sommer, William Beck, and Charles Blackman. John Neller, who had just returned from spending four weeks in Europe, gave the travel report. John told us that the Canadian border was now open to Americans who had passed the required tests. L&PA Chair Dwight Rousu reported that the SPEEA L&PA committees continued to hold virtual meetings with ERS attendees. Communications Cochair Dave Westman told us that he would update our website to show the speaker at our September quarterly membership meeting. Nominations and Elections Chair Steve

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Ellis said that ERS needs volunteers to serve as officers and committee chairs. Social and Refreshments Cochair Steve Ellis told us that cruise opportunities are booked and expensive for the near future.

Unfinished Old Business: Dave Baine reported that backup files for important ERS records already exist. Dave said that he would check with SPEEA about the second mailing for membership dues.

New Business: Steve Ellis volunteered to be our vice president and was appointed without opposition or dissent (and with our thanks). We decided that our CDs, which were going to expire on August 29, would all be renewed for five years. Dave Watt recommended that we try to recruit volunteers for open committee chairs at the September quarterly membership meeting. We were told that “hybrid meetings” were difficult and complicated.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The next steering board meeting is scheduled for November 16 at 11:00 a.m. The following quarterly membership meeting is scheduled for December 2 at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Ewing, Secretary