

ACRE General Meeting

March 21, 2018

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10 am by President, Mike Lee.

Prayer: The opening prayer was given by John Johnson.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mike Lee, President, asked the members to remember Tim Cook, Francis Bradley, Bob McCully, and Donna McBryde in their prayers.

John Johnson, Treasurer: Reported we received \$945 in dues which is a net gain of \$254. We had 85 renewals in January 2018 and 37 renewals in February 2018. A detailed copy of the Treasurer's report will be attached to this file.

Mike Lee, President, told the member he was going to set up another email account to try to get information out in a timely manner while Tim is recovering. He encouraged them to call him at 901-826-5040 or email him at mlee12@comcast.net if they have any questions.

Clyde Keenan, Legal Advisor, reminded members that widows under the age of 65 will lose their pension when they remarry. Those over 65 who are under the old pension system can keep their pension.

Bobby Collins, Pension Oversight, reported as of January 2018 the pension fund made over \$80 million. The fund is 93.43% funded and has a total of \$2,448,029,832 in the fund.

Darrell White, Membership, reminded members to pay their dues on time and he would be glad to help answer questions for the members.

Mike Lee, President, told members he would be sending another letter to the City Council asking for a 2% raise for retirees. He asked if any members would like to volunteer to run for ACRE an office, please let him know by August/September. New officers will be installed at the December luncheon. Members were told the new tax bill eliminates the donut hole as of January 2019, but lobbyists were trying to get this rescinded. Police officers need to schedule time at the gun range for their qualification. MPA and MFFA are trying to get enough signatures to add ½ cent sales tax to cover pre-65 healthcare, spouses of employees, Pre-K, and road paving. Support from ACRE members are needed.

Mike Williams, President of MPA, and guest, thanked members for their service to the City. He has been talking to Mayor Strickland about trying to help retirees with health insurance and benefits. The ½ cent sales tax will raise approximately 50-60 million dollars a year. They want to designate 60% to police/fire, 20% to Pre-K, and 20% to road paving. Support from ACRE members are greatly needed.

Matt Cunningham, guest from MPA, said they needed 40,000 signatures and the deadline is June 14, 2018 to get the referendum on the November ballot. Members can find more information on the web site or fb under "Campaign for Public Safety".

Mike Lee, President, showed the new Medicare Card that will be mailed out between April 1, 2018 and December 31, 2019. As of January 2020, our old Social Security Card cannot be used. He made mention of the free health clinic available for retirees and that they should have been sent a card. Mike is still going to training sessions for SHIP and encouraged members who fall below the poverty level to check into what financial benefits are offered.

Closing Prayer by Mike Lee, President. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sonja Hollie, Secretary