**MINUTES OF THE**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**RETIRED EMPLOYEES’ ASSOCIATION**

**January 20, 2022, 10:00 A.M.**

**4830 Waller Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32254**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Eric Smith, President, at 10:00 AM.

**QUORUM** – A quorum of Board Members were present.

**INVOCATION** – Chaplain Spann gave an invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO AMERICAN FLAG**

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS** - The following Officers and Directors were present: President Eric Smith, 1st Vice President John Keane, 2nd Vice President Cindy Gardner, Secretary Greg Radlinski, Treasurer Charlene West, Chaplain, Leona Spann, Member-at-large Lynette Clinch, Member-at-large Al Saffer, GEPP Trustee Richard Wallace, GEPP Pension Advisory Committeeman Kent Mathis, Advisory Panel Member Sheila Sharpe Caulkins.

The following Officers and Directors were absent: Historian Harry Reagan, excused, Sergeant-at-Arms Darryl Patterson, Member-at-large Larry Johnson, excused, Past President Pete Ison, excused, Advisory Panel Members Flo Clark, Henry Cook, excused and Tom McGivney, Police & Fire Pension Fund Trustee Terry Wood (excused), and Police & Fire Pension Fund Advisory Committeeman Tom Lumpkin (excused).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES -** The minutes of the December 5, 2021, Quarterly Membership Meeting/Christmas Party were approved unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT -** Treasurer,Charlene West presented a financial report.

**CORRESPONDENCE** - There was no outstanding correspondence.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. 1st Vice President John Keane - had no legislative news or financial news (in addition to the Treasurer’s financial report) to report.
2. 2nd Vice President Cindy Gardner reported:
3. Membership - Thirty-nine (39) new members had joined since the last report, and there are currently 2,447 members.
4. Social - Members were appointed to the Social Committee to plan the 2022 events which would at least return to the pre-Covid program—a Spring fish fry, a late summer barbecue, and the Christmas Party.
5. Although the Police & Fire Pension Fund representatives were absent, GEPP Trustee Richard Wallace reported that in 2021 the PFPF earned 13% return on investments, adding $311 million to the Fund. Through November 30, 2021, the GEPP earned $223 million, a 9% return on investments, which exceeded expectations. Year-end information was forthcoming.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT -** President Smith outline his objectives for 2022 which included increased revenue from advertising, securing JEA’s cooperation in allowing its active service employees to join REA as Associate Members whose dues could be paid bi-monthly allotment, increase membership by emphasizing the benefits of joining REA, scheduling an Officers and Directors Retreat to identify ways to improve service to members and enhance the value of belonging to the Association.

**OLD BUSINESS -** There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS** - The President reviewed staff’s performance during 2021 and moved to award Mrs. King and Mrs. Brooker each a one-time $1,500 bonus. The motion was seconded by Mr. Keane and approved unanimously. The President also asked Mrs. Gardner to consider a means to thank Judge Gary Flower for his friendship toward the Association, especially his continuing willingness to annually induct the incoming Officers and Directors. He encouraged the Board to be alert to opportunities to earn revenue for the Association, such as by recruiting businesses to advertise in **The REAL Scoop**. Finally, he appointed a committee to plan an Officers and Directors Retreat.

Chaplain Spann and Mr. Keane recommended holding Board meetings at Patterson’s Funeral Home (PFH) because of the spread of the Omicron variant of the Covid-19 virus. The REA Office is too small to meet social distancing guidelines, while Sergeant-at-Arms Patterson’s building is quite adequate. Over the past two years the Board has met there frequently and held quarterly meetings there, as well. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that, until further notice, Board meetings would be held at PFH.

**BENEDICTION** - Chaplain Spann gave the benediction.

**ADJOURNMENT -** There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 12 o’clock.

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION** - Board of Director’s meeting will be on **February 17, 2022, at 10:00 at Patterson Funeral Home located at 6615 Arlington Expressway.**