**MINUTES OF THE**

**MEMBERS QUARTERLY AND**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE**

**RETIRED EMPLOYEES’ ASSOCIATION**

**MEETING**

**September 18, 2022**

**618 Stockton St**

**Jacksonville, Florida**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Eric Smith, President, at 12:30 PM.

**QUORUM** A quorum of the Board of Directors and a quorum of 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: Pres. Eric Smith, 1st Vice President John Keane, 2nd Vice President Cindy Gardner, Secretary Greg Radlinski, Chaplain Leona Spann, Ombudsman MaryAnne Anders, Sergeant-at-Arms Darryl Patterson, Mbr-at-large Al Saffer, Mbr-at-large Larry Johnson, Mbr-at-large Lynette Clinch, Past President Pete Ison, Police & Fire Pension Fund Trustee Terry Wood and Advisory Panel Member Sheila Sharpe Caulkins.

The following officers and directors were absent: Treasurer Charlene West (excused), GEPP Pension Advisory Committeeman Kent Mathis, Police & Fire Pension Fund Advisory Committeeman Tom Lumpkin, GEPP Trustee Richard Wallace (Excused), Advisory Panel Member Flo Clark.

President Smith advised the membership that Past President Henry Cook passed away a few days ago and asked everyone to keep Mr. Cook and his grieving family in their prayers.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The minutes of the August 18, 2022, Board Meeting were approved unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** First Vice President Keane presented a financial report.The Association’s assets total $113,959.29. There were no outstanding debts.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A.** 1st Vice President John Keane reported:

Legislative. Bills to repeal the Windfall Elimination and Pension Benefit Offset provisions are pending in Congress (HB 87 and SB 1302). Summaries are attached. Of 435 Members of Congress, 299 have signed on as co-sponsors. Forty-two Senator have signed as co-sponsors. Neither Florida Senator has agreed to co-sponsor SB1302.

Communications. The REA website has been updated and more changes are coming. The Real Scoop will be reformatted.

Elections. Mr. Keane presided over the election of officers and directors for 2023. The Nominating Committee recommended re-electing the currently serving officers and directors who are appointed to representing the REA membership. When the floor was opened to nominations from the floor, none were offered. The members nominated by the Nominating Committee were elected by acclamation.

**B.** 2nd Vice President Cindy Gardner reported:

Membership. Currently there are 2,394 members. Since the August Board meeting, 12 members have died and 16 joined the Association. REA attends pre-retirement seminars to recruit new members. The next seminar is October 12.

Social. The Christmas Party will be held December 11th.

Insurance. The insurance open season will be November 1-14.

**C.** Pension Funds Reports:

Police and Fire Pension Fund. PFPF and GEPP employ the same consultancy and have experienced the same fluctuations in value. Trustee Terry Wood reported the PFPF balance is $2,340,000,000.00. He also reported that lobbying continues to encourage the City Council to grant retirees a one-time bonus of $1,250 from the City’s American Recovery Act grant.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT** President Smith read a proposed resolution for the Council consideration. The resolution expresses the sense of the Council to grant retirees a one-time bonus, a bonus that has already been given to active service employees. *See*, attached resolution.

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

**NEW BUSINESS -** President Smith announced that REA was hiring a new accountant, Dial Accounting Service, 1445 Arlington Road. The change will lower the cost of accountancy services and improved timely submission of tax returns.

**ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business to conduct, the business meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM to a membership social. With dinner concluded, and benediction by Chaplain Spann, the Quarterly Members Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Greg Radlinski

Secretary