

Unapproved until
future meeting

ILLINOIS RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
IRTAPAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Roger Hampton

Members Present: Roger Hampton, Chairman; Ed Wollet, Vice Chair; Shirley Dodds, Treasurer; Doris Heaton, Secretary; Dave Davison, Past Chair; John Flaherty, IRTA Vice President; and Jo Anne Nelson, Bob Kaplan, Jan Bryant, Donna Sargent, Jim Barr, and Bill Funkhouser, Area Representatives.

Also Present: Jim Bachman, Executive Director; Mary Shaw, Government Affairs Director; and Andrew Bodewes, Contract Lobbyist

Motion by Shirley Dodds to approve the minutes of January 24, 2018 passed.

Andrew Bodewes, contract lobbyist, presented an update on the current legislative and gubernatorial campaigns and spoke on the uncertainty as to what tier the races will be until the polling information is known. There will be 31 seats with no incumbents running – 8 in the Senate and 23 in the House of Representatives.

Mary Shaw, Government Affairs Director, stated that we presently have 5263 members with \$1/month deduct for IRTAPAC and a total of \$171,799 in the account.

In order to be considered for endorsement in the coming election, the candidates must complete a questionnaire for review by the IRTAPAC Committee. Proposed questionnaires for legislative and gubernatorial candidates were distributed by Ed Wollet.

Motion by Ed Wollet to accept the IRTAPAC questionnaires for the legislative and gubernatorial races passed.

IRTAPAC remains concerned about the GPO/WEP Social Security offsets and would like to ascertain the level of support for the repeal of the offsets by our senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. for information purposes. It was decided to ask each member of the Illinois delegation whether they support the repeal of WEP-GPO.

The IRTAPAC Committee set three goals for 2018-2019 at their meeting on March 27, 2018 which were presented by committee chair, Ed Wollet.

2018-2019 IRTAPAC GOALS & STRATEGIES

Goal 1:

Committee Duties & Responsibilities & Goals: To recommend endorsements of legislative and gubernatorial candidates.

Strategy: Develop General Assembly and Gubernatorial questionnaires to submit to each candidate through his/her campaign committee for return by July 5. Periodically, the PAC committee members will be updated on which candidates in their region have failed to return a completed questionnaire. PAC committee members will contact those campaigns encouraging them to submit the PAC questionnaire for consideration for endorsement. No consideration for endorsement will be extended to any candidate who does not submit a completed questionnaire.

Goal 2:

Committee Duties & Responsibilities: Raise money for the IRTAPAC by increasing participation in the \$1/month deduction program to 7000 participants by December 31, 2019.

Strategy: The rationale behind the \$1/month deduction program is to provide consistency and predictability for the IRTAPAC fund. This program currently brings in an average of \$5 to every \$1 of voluntary contribution. This fund has grown from having \$20,000-\$30,000 available to support campaigns to over \$150,000. Regional PAC committee members will be supplied with PAC enrollment forms to use as they meet with local units. Electronic communications will include the link (<https://form.jotform.com/80233925745156>) for members to use for electronic sign up.

Goal 3:

Committee Duties & Responsibilities: Assist in organizing campaign volunteers, particularly in units that will have Tier 1 races.

Strategy:

1. Help local units to schedule visits with candidates to review the answers to the PAC questionnaire and receive assurances of future support for TRS retirees' pension and **health insurance** benefits.
2. Help local units recruit up to 10 volunteers for campaigns, working particularly with units with identified Tier 1 campaigns. For example, volunteers may want to help by answering a phone at campaign headquarters, addressing and stuffing campaign envelopes, canvassing a precinct, or calling voters on election day...

Motion by Jan Bryant to adjourn at 1:56 p.m. passed.

Doris Heaton, Secretary