

## SDRTA SPRING BOARD MEETING

Ramkota Inn  
Pierre, South Dakota  
April 29, 2008

Present: Charollene Coates, Allen Price, Donna Fischer, Diana Glover, Bill and Cathy Zubke, Shirley Eisnach, Pat Johnson, Marrietta Catlin, Art Shaver, and Wyland Borth.

President Coates called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Additions to the agenda were discussed.

Secretary Donna Fischer handed out copies of the July 16, 2007, Board meeting. (See Attachment A.) The minutes were corrected as follows: on page 1, bottom line, change 123 to 113; and on page 2, paragraph 5, change Shawn to Sharon. Bill Zubke moved to approve the minutes as corrected; Al Price seconded. Motion carried.

Art Shaver presented the budget, which gives a projected revenue total for 2007-08 of \$16,085.74. (See Attachment B.) Art noted that next year's budget will need to increase by \$800 to cover convention expenses and by a yet to be determined amount to provide reimbursement for the Executive Director. He suggested that we take money from cash on hand to meet the budget, assuming revenues continue as projected. It is important that SDRTA actively pursue recruitment of new members to help us meet our budget commitments. The SDRTA Investments sheet (Attachment C) indicates that our estimated balance in CD's is \$33,489.38. If we spend carefully, we should be able to cover all expenses. Wyland Borth moved to accept the treasurer's report; Shirley seconded. Motion carried.

Cathy Zubke, Membership chairperson, handed out the 2008 Membership Report (see Attachment D). She is encouraging locals to provide her with current information on life members, address changes, and names of deceased members. The Board approved her request to combine "out of state" and "other" together as "Other." The preferred date for mailing memberships will remain November, as in the past. Wyland Borth suggested that Cathy make a list of names listed as "Other" and submit it to SDRS (to Rob Wylie) to see if those people are receiving benefit checks as a way of verifying the identities of the deceased members.

Wyland Borth, Legislative chair, credited active grass-roots support for the passage of bills favorable to SDRTA during the 2008 Legislative Session. The most important piece of legislation, which Rob Wylie will explain tomorrow (May 1) during the General Session, will give members an increase in retirement benefits. Wyland also reported that he had attended the Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C., in February, where he was able to talk with Senator Thune and with the staffs of Sen. Johnson and Rep. Herseth-Sandlin.

Diana Glover presented her report on the Newsletter (see Attachment E). Returned Newsletters cost SDRTA \$90.19 this year. Wyland suggested that at the fall

leadership meetings, units be requested to give Diana the names of their “snowbird” members so she can mail those members’ Newsletters in envelopes. The news deadlines for the 2008-09 year are October 15, 2008, and March 10, 2009.

Marrietta Catlin, Community Service chair, had good news regarding units’ reporting of hours this past year. (See Attachment F.) The Grandparent Essay Contest and With Our Youth continue to be successful. The total estimated value of the combined hours of service reported for With Our Youth and Other Services is \$853,980.48. Finally, referencing this year’s featured theme book Everybody Needs a Rock, Marietta gave each Board member a rock labeled with a descriptive word appropriate to his/her personality and work.

Pat Johnson, who is in charge of the Memorial Service, suggested the April 1 deadline for submitting names of deceased members be stressed at the fall leadership meetings. A document that units may use to send the information to Cathy Zubke will be placed on the SDRTA website.

Pat Johnson handed out an information/registration sheet for the SDRTA fall tour (see Attachment G). To date, approximately 35-40 people have indicated interest in the tour, but we need a total of 50 in order to make a profit on the venture.

Shirley Eisnach, our AARP Executive Council Representative, went to Boston last September and will be going to Washington D.C., this year. She talked about several AARP 50<sup>th</sup> birthday events scheduled to take place in South Dakota this summer and fall. Since Shirley’s term expires on December 31, 2008, incoming president Al Price will need to appoint a replacement for her.

Al Price will hand out Traveling Trophy forms at the general session tomorrow morning. He will present the trophy at the noon luncheon.

Next, Board members reported on the contacts they made as liaisons with individual units during the past year. This program continues to be a valuable tool for communication among individual units and the Board.

Charollene Coates indicated that the website is functioning well and is becoming less costly to support. The Executive Director will assume responsibility for the website beginning in 2008-09.

Charollene Coates gave a report on her activities as SDRTA President for 2007-2008 (see Attachment H). Once again, she was busy representing us and serving our members’ needs and interests each month of the past year. She is to be commended for her tireless efforts on behalf of all of us.

Charollene also reported that the Board has unanimously approved adding the position of Executive Director to SDRTA. The reading of the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules will be done at the May 1 General Meeting. Diana Glover

moved that the Board recommend approval of the changes at that time. Pat Johnson seconded. Motion carried. Note: Shirley Eisnach has volunteered to assume the new position as Executive Director for 2008-09. The Board will meet immediately following the General Meeting to vote on Shirley's appointment.

Regarding tax exemption for SDRTA, Charollene has found that such a benefit will be difficult for us to receive because in South Dakota we depend on state taxes. As to the AMBA benefits, we won't have information about that for 6 to 12 months.

Al Price talked about his efforts to secure convention busing for this year, and indicated that he hopes to pursue this project again next year.

The 2008 Convention program, including Board members' duties and responsibilities during the business meeting and the breakout sessions, was reviewed by President Coates.

Regarding the transfer of state life memberships between SD and other states, Membership chair Cathy Zubke needs to have clarification on this issue. It will be discussed further at the summer Board meeting in July.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Donna Fischer, Secretary