**APWU Spring Retiree Meeting Minutes**

**May 15th 2012 25?? Members Present**

President Barb Versteegh called the meeting to order at 10:17 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our first order of business was a Speaker from the Alzheimers Association, Polly Johnston, Program Specialist.

Barb VerSteegh read the meeting minutes from September 20, 2011. MMS: Accepting minutes as read.

Passed

Treasurer Report was read by Jon Arnold. MMS: To accept the Treasurer’s Report as read.

Passed

Legislative Report from Cynthia Housh:

Cindy gave the Retirees a Big Thank You! for their contribution to the COPA Blitz. Retirees contributed 2 to 1 compared to DMI-APWU members.

Midge Slater from the Iowa Alliance for Retired Americans, and Lance Coles welcomed Mitt Romney to Des Moines today. Midge said the Ryan Budget is bad for Seniors and America. She distributed the Congressional Voting Record. Harkin voted against Canadian Medication. Grassley continues to vote against senior issues.

Paul Ryan from Wisconsin – YouTube video…Divide and conquer unions. No Democrats voted for the Ryan Budget. The Ryan Budget wants to: cut Social Security by raising the retirement age.

Midge attended the rally at Capital Square on Monday, May 14, 2012. She asked for everyone to fill out the Save Capital Square postcards.

Social Security is not going broke. Some in Congress want to give vouchers and tell seniors to find their own health care plans. The problem with that is that it always raises the price. Seniors need to get involved and get their voices heard.

Seniors need to urge Congress to:

* *Close major corporate tax loop holes.*
* *Close state level corporate loop holes.*

The annual state-wide Alliance for Retired Americans Convention is on July 11, 2012. They will speak on Medicare, Social Security and Iowa Elder Abuse. There will be valet parking.

Local DMI-APWU President, Lance Coles’ Report:

Retirees are very influential. Lance likes the absentee ballot. He thinks it’s the easiest way to vote.

The Post Office is in dire straits. He met with Postmaster Donahue who wants to reduce another 100,000 from the Post Office. The average age at the Post Office is fifty-three. Two-thirds can retire in 2015.

The Issa Bill (California) would force retirement. Mail would be centrally delivered. The first, largest customer of the USPS is EBay. The third or fourth largest customers of the USPS is Fed-Ex.

President Barb reported that the DMI-APWU Picnic is June 23rd, 11:00am – 6:00pm. Everyone is invited to participate.

Old Business: None

New Business: Retirees will do the Iowa State Fair Tickets again.

MMS: To provide two tickets to any members who request them, as in the past.

Passed.

How much dues come back to the Local 44?

National gets $1.20 and the Local gets $1.80.

The local has COPA Tickets for sale.

MMS: To send Barb VerSteegh to National Convention in Los Angeles in August 2012.

Passed.

Door Prizes:

Hy-Vee Gift Card $15 to Ralph Crowell

Hy-Vee Gift Card $25 to Dorothy Weems

MMS: Lloyde Weems made a motion to adjorn it.

Passed-Meeting Adjorned at 11:53am

Lunch was served by the Auxiliary

Next meeting is scheduled for September 18th, 2012

Respectfully submitted by Viola Seger, DMI-APWU Local 44 Secretary

September 18, 2012, Election of Officers