**APWU RETIREE’S MEETING**

**September 14, 2010**

The semi-annual retiree’s meeting was held at the APWU hall on Tuesday, September 14, 2010.  Twenty-four members/spouses attended with socializing at 10:00a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by President Barb VerSteegh with George Bates leading with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the last meeting and the treasure’s report were read and approved.  An audit will be conducted before the next meeting.

**Legislative Report** - Vice President Bates reported on attending the meeting of Iowa Alliance for Retired Americans.  Mike Granstad spoke on Iowa health care and Iowa politics.  Roxanne Conlon spoke on Social Security and tax cuts.  Bob Carney, AARP, spoke on fighting for unemployment benefits and problems, and challenges of health care reform.  Dave Osterber spoke on deficit spending, stimulus and the unemployed.  Mark Smith spoke on health care and Iowa cares program.  Joel Wolfe spoke on Elder programs.

**Local President,** Lance Coles reported many of the hot items for retirees are collecting dust due to the other problems facing our country and we need to continue to contact our congressmen/women to keep all issues on the table.  We also need to make sure that the Post Office is not given the ability to close Post Offices that aren’t self-sufficient.  We need to get voters to register and vote.  Absentee voting is an easy way to vote.  Lance also saw problems for the Democrats in the November election and reminded us to vote for the candidates who have supported the unions and retirees in the past.

**President,** VerSteegh reported that she was unable to attend the retiree’s convention due to medical reasons.  She also talked on the continuing efforts to get new retirees to remain members of the union by holding events that would be of interest to them.  She reported that the State Fair ticket give-away was very successful with 96 requests and 192 tickets given away.

**Old Business** – none

**New Business** – Election of officers

Nominations were opened as follows:

President – Barb VerSteegh - accepted

Vice President – John Alexander - declined

                           George Bates - accepted

Secretary/Treasurer -  Karen Alexander - declined

                          Marsha Herman - accepted

Sergeant at Arms – Carol Tyler - Accepted

Trustees – Harold Noland – accepted

                  Ralph Crowell – accepted

                  Lloyd Weems – accepted

A vote was taken for each office and the New Officers are:

President – Barb Versteegh

Vice President – George Bates

Secretary/Treasurer – Marsha Herman

Sergeant at Arms - Carol Tyler

Harold Noland made a motion to change the Des Moines, Iowa Area Chapter By-Laws by changing the semi-annual meeting from the second to the third Tuesday of the month.  Lloyd Weems seconded the motion.  A two-thirds majority vote is required to change the By-Laws.  The vote was 23 yes, 1 no.  The motion carried.

 **Door Prizes** -  Sharon Glenn $25

Bob Lange $15

The next meeting will be held May 17, 2011.

Motion to adjourn at 11:30am

As always, a delicious lunch was served.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Alexander, Secretary