

NHRSTA Annual Meeting
June 16, 2011
Red Blazer Restaurant, Concord, NH

The meeting was opened by saying the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Ernie Loomis and was followed by a moment of silence.

Chairman Dave Kelley greeted everyone and provided a few opening remarks.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee- brief comments provided by Ernie Loomis (See additional info in the Secretary's Report)

Scholarship Committee- report provided by Ernie Loomis who advised that Dave Cargill was attending the Kennet High School graduation this evening in order to present the Sgt. James Noyes Scholarship award of \$500 to Meredith Bryden. Recognition and thanks were also given to NHRSTA member Don Palmer for his financial generosity in supporting the scholarship fund.

Treasurer's Report – a copy of the report provided by Dick Campbell, who was unable to attend the dinner, was made available for review by all in attendance. Joe Broderick made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as documented; second by Paul O'Leary; Report Accepted

Secretary's Report - Kathy Kimball advised that since the last meeting in Sept. 2010, NHRSTA letters and membership applications have been sent to 14 Division members who have retired; of the 14, 6 have joined to date. It was also noted that another 12 retirements have occurred and Kathy is waiting for the official letter to be received from the Colonel's office prior to sending invitations to join the NHRSTA; Everyone present was also reminded that if they wish to send any retiree info, and/or photos, to Carol Magee for inclusion in the next NHSP Quarterly Newsletter, the deadline is June 28, 2011.

Executive Board Elections – 4 positions are up for re-election this year: 3 Directors and the Secretary; Kathy advised she would continue as Secretary for another term and no other members present expressed interest to fill the position. Roland Lamy opened the floor for nominations for the 3 Directors positions. He nominated Dave Kelley; Scott Champagne nominated Jim White; Steve Ford nominated Herb Frink. Joe Broderick moved to close the office nominations, second by Guy Kimball; Secretary Kathy Kimball cast a vote to accept the ballot, all present were in favor by voice vote. All nominees accepted their nominations.

The business meeting was suspended while dinner was served.

Following dinner, the 50/50 Raffle Drawing was held. The winning ticket was selected by new NHRSTA member Sue Harbour. The winner of \$100 was Mary Hureau. Congratulations Mary and thank you to all who participated in the purchase of raffle tickets for your generosity!

Legislative Update – provided by Ernie Loomis included the following highlights: the SB-3 Omnibus Bill was vetoed by Gov. Lynch on 6-15-11. HB-1 and HB-2 contain many elements of the omnibus bill and both are still alive in the legislature; earlier today (6-16-11), the Committee of Conference agreed to send the budget to the Governor, who has no line item veto power; the Governor has advised that he will look at all parts of the bill prior to making his decision on what he will do with it. He further reported that the money has been taken from the COLA account, but the account is still in place, but it is unknown what the future of COLA's will be. He also advised that an amendment was made to set up a study committee over the summer to study COLA's, Disability Retirements and medical subsidies. Ernie provided some history of the legislative session since January and thanked the membership for all of their e-mails, letters and phone calls to House and Senate members. He stated that our respectful communication of our issues and concerns helped a great deal. He closed by making a strong request for assistance with efforts at the statehouse. The current legislative session has shown that he cannot attend all meetings as many have been scheduled concurrently in different buildings and it is getting to be too much for the few who are actively engaged in trying to keep our retirement concerns in the forefront. Please consider helping.

Chairman Dave Kelley followed up by talking about how important it is to conduct relationship building at the statehouse. He briefly discussed the potential for lawsuits aimed at safeguarding and recovering promised benefits. However, he said that a ruling against state employees with regard to promised benefits in Merrimack County Superior Court by Judge McNamara makes a possible lawsuit victory extremely unlikely and very expensive. He urged that the NHRSTA membership continue to fight legislative efforts to further erode our benefits and stated that we need help to continue to keep on top of things. He also encouraged the membership to try to get uninvolved NHSP retirees to participate in these efforts.

No Old Business. No further New Business
Motion to adjourn made by Joe Broderick, second by Skip Korbet, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Kimball
NHRSTA Secretary