
~~~~ RETIREWIRE ~~~~



🌸 **Spring 2020** 🌸



RPEA Chapter 096 Meeting on April 10, 2020 has been

!!CANCELLED!!

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Monday announced additional restrictions to disrupt the spread of the COVID-19 virus in New Mexico and instructed New Mexicans to remain in their homes or places of residence except for outings absolutely necessary for health, safety and welfare.

ON ILLNESSES AND TESTING: New Mexicans who develop symptoms of COVID-19 infection — fever, cough or shortness of breath — should call their health care provider or the NMDOH COVID-19 hotline immediately (1-855-600-3453).

FOR MORE INFORMATION: New Mexicans who have non-health-related questions or concerns can also call 833-551-0518

 *Happy Spring Birthdays*  :*Lucy Lopez, Rose Luchau and Edyth Wilson!*

**Retired Public Employees' Association (RPEA)
Chapter 096 Board & General Meetings Minutes
January 10, 2020**

Present: Larry Sullivan, Martha Hoyt, Lucy Lopez, Evelyn McGarry, Kathy Sullivan, Louis Silva, Lillie Silva, Ruth Johnson, Andy Wilson, Edyth Wilson, Caroline Cardiel (guest), Michael Rinderle (guest, AMBA/MASA), Richard Dick, Esther Duran, John Johnson (guest)

- Evelyn explained phone set was installed (by her daughter) however after reading instruction booklet learned phone set is just a regular phone system with 5 handsets suitable for an office setting and has no specific automated calling (software) program; suggested phone set be returned; motion made and chapter members voted in favor of returning phone set to Best Buy; Kathy Sullivan volunteered to handle return to store
- Evelyn asked if emailing current chapter newsletter to other chapter presidents & newsletter editors should be continued; Larry advised yes continue to email our chapter newsletter to other chapter representatives
- Evelyn asked if chapter members interested in having a private chapter Facebook group; motion made and members voted against creating a chapter Facebook group
- Evelyn advised a general meeting reminder text message was sent to 45 chapter members living in the greater ABQ metropolitan area; majority of members present stated their contact phone numbers are landline-based; Ruth Johnson stated she did receive the meeting reminder text message
- Larry explained member chapter assignment based on member zip code, proximity to metropolitan infrastructure or member request; that is why chapters may have members from different areas and members from out of state
- Evelyn advised researched automated calling phone applications and found 'Callbot' app that would cost \$3-\$4 a quarter to send out meeting reminder automated phone calls; explained some reviews not favorable; advised emailed app maker if issues fixed and response was yes; motion made & approved to use app with cost
- Lunch fee collection: \$77 (bank deposit \$72); Esther Duran was \$5 drawing winner
- Larry advised need for future chapter president & area director candidates as he will complete his 4 year term and not seek new term
- Evelyn asked if a RPEA (Sac) administrative list with duties can be issued by RPEA; Larry advised send email request to Al Darby; Larry informed any email regarding

- RPEA should include "cc" to Al Darby, Radtana Lee; current staff: Corey (computer/ mailing list), Radtana (assistant office manager), Sean & Teena (membership)
- Richard Dick volunteered to be part of group to go to southern NM if members living in that area request a meeting
 - Larry informed RPEA's plan to construct 5 unit apartment building on land owned by RPEA next to RPEA (Sac) office as a source of income
 - Current chapter bank account balance is \$2940.00
 - Michael Rinderle AMBA rep discussed MASA plans; he explained Medicare may not pay travel medical expenses; MASA does not cover expenses in Cuba and war zones; plans can cover grandchildren with you except for lifetime plan (must be 50+); a claim must be submitted within 1 year
 - The next chapter 096 general meeting will be on April 10, 2020 @ noon at Le Peep on Louisiana Blvd in ABQ
- Respectfully submitted by Evelyn McGarry

LARRY'S CORNER

NO APRIL, 2020 CHAPTER MEETING !! Due to the health crisis, our usual April meeting will not be held. Le Peep can only do takeout and a bunch of old people hanging out in front of a business is liable to draw a lot of attention.

Please stay safe. We hope to be at Le Peep for our meeting on Friday, July 10, 2020. The Albertson's in the South Valley has senior shopping hours between 7 AM-9AM Monday and Thursday. Check with your local grocer for Senior/ Compromised shopping hours.

I have a Kaffir, the Arab head garment. I wear leather gloves to the market, wrap my head and face up and dress as Lawrence of Arabia. It covers most of my areas susceptible to disease and no one mugs someone that looks as creepy as me. Yes, crime is down 37% in Albuquerque since the COVID-19 outbreak. There's always a silver lining.

AMBA has a new representative in New Mexico. Her name is Deborah and she has been invited to our July meeting. I spoke with Deborah a few times. Your Chapter 096 officers continue to work on your behalf from our homes.

Lucy Lopez, Chapter treasurer, has gotten the last two months of our bank statement from me.

Lucy and I both handle the bank statements. RPEA Chapters are required to have two chapter officers review each bank statement.

The A T & T phone system is a disaster for us. Kathy Sullivan took responsibility for returning it to Best Buy at the January meeting. She's the fifth person in our group to fool with it. Her promise was months after we had bought the infernal thing.

We have to accept that it was a bad idea. Outside Evelyn, I'm not sure we have a good computer person on our board. Hoping that we can upgrade our board's skills may be futile. This is your chance to volunteer!

Kathy and I drove to California the last week of February. We got three of our six grandchildren for several days and a very bonding experience. Maddie on her horse, Nate hitting an RBI in his first game of the season, and Max working at son-in-law, Jason's, restaurant were part of our grandparents love fest.

I came down with an upper respiratory problem within days of returning from California. Kathy soon got it also. We went to urgent care here in Albuquerque on March 10th, before New Mexico had any COVID-19 cases. Because we had just returned from California, they treated us as a pair. It's OK, we've been married almost 36 years. They tested us for influenza. That was negative. My diagnosis was asthmatic bronchitis. Our caregiver thought it was overkill for us to be tested for the coronavirus. He gave us our prescriptions, and we went to the pharmacy. ½ hour after getting back from the drugstore, our caregiver said the New Mexico Department of Health required us to be tested for COVID-19. On Thursday evening, March 12th they called us and told us we were negative.

Our July board and general membership meeting will be held at Le Peep. The address is 2125 Louisiana NE across from ABQ Uptown. Everyone is expected to pay \$5 toward your meal. Our chapter will pick up the rest, tax and gratuity.

See you this summer!

Area IX Director's Report

I attended the RPEA Board of Directors telephonic meeting March 24, 2020 from my home.

With California in virtual lockdown, our RPEA paid staff are working from their homes. During the business week, a single staffer goes into RPEA headquarters each day to collect the mail, get phone messages, and other duties. They rotate this duty.

Our RPEA Board Meeting scheduled for April 27-28, 2020 in Orange, California has been postponed. The board decided that the General Assembly in September would be conducted as planned in Sacramento, California. We clarified the policy regarding our group's investment standby authority.

Our bylaws require that the proposed budget for next fiscal year be given to RPEA Board members at the April meeting. Marie Reed, RPEA Secretary/Treasurer, will

provide the proposed budget by electronic means to all RPEA Board members by the date required by our bylaws.

We discussed the liability policy for our officers and board members. We have the opportunity to increase the amount of our coverage but no one from the insurer is at the office and everything would be handled ad hoc.

Dropping the check off at someone's house seems sketchy to me. Since we are not expecting trouble, our one million-dollar limit seems reasonable.

The development of our vacant property next to RPEA Headquarters has been postponed until after the economy is up and running again. If done correctly, this property could provide financial stability to our organization in perpetuity.

Lucy, Area IX AAD, and I attended the Chapter General Membership Meeting of RPEA Chapter 101 on March 14, 2020 at the Steak & Stone Restaurant in Mesa, Arizona, I cooked my salmon steak on a VERY hot rock! The garlic-mashed potatoes were yummy.

In attendance at 101's meeting was Pat, the website lady. Pat is a chapter member of RPEA Chapter 101. RPEA bylaws say that a person can join an RPEA Chapter for \$10 per year. The chapter member can only vote on chapter business.

Pat was a guest speaker at the Chapter meeting some years ago and she joined as a chapter member. She designed and constructed a website for RPEA Chapter 101.

RPEA's most notable chapter member is the mayor of Burbank, California.

Be safe!

Respectfully Submitted, Larry Sullivan

In Memoriam

~ Jo Johnson ~

Your participation is always welcome and encouraged.

If you would like to contribute to the RETIREWIRE newsletter please contact your newsletter editor, Evelyn McGarry, at mcgarrye2004@yahoo.com

[Please contact me if you no longer want to receive your newsletter in paper format and receive it in an email.]

Your RPEA Chapter 096 Board Members:

Larry Sullivan: President, Lou Silva: V-P, Evelyn McGarry: Secretary & Newsletter Editor, Lucy Lopez: Treasurer

Next RPEA Chapter 096 Meeting:

July 10, 2020 @ NOON at Le Peep Restaurant (Louisiana location)

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

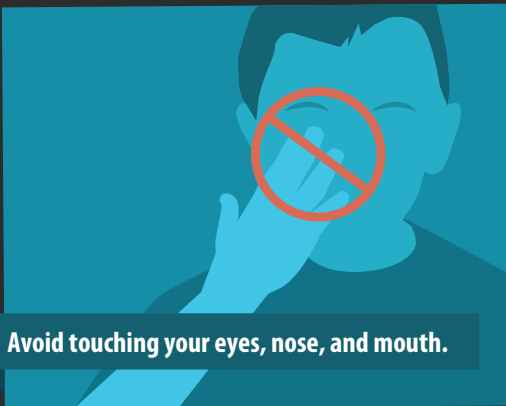
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



cdc.gov/COVID19

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