

SEANC District 3

Serving Watauga, Avery and Mitchell Counties

May 21, 2024

Meeting held via Zoom

Those in attendance: Janice Smith, Teresa Johnson, Karen Krider, Robin Greene, Doris Greer, Kathy Howell, Kim Overcash, Rhonda Robinson, Anne Castro, Holden Hartzog, Wanda Hunt, Bob Gibbard, Pat Reighard. Guests: Cliff Johnson,Western Regional Rep., Adam Weinbarger, Western Regional Member Relations Rep.

The meeting was called to order by Teresa Johnson, District Chairperson at 6:00pm

The minutes for the February 20, 2024 meeting were submitted for approval. There was a motion to accept the minutes, seconded and the vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as submitted.

Robin Greene, gave the Treasurer’s Report: Checking - $15,859.60; Money Market - $15,176 and $57.97 in Savings. As previously voted, a CD was purchased in the amount of $20,000. Total funds reported in the amount of $51,093.57

Janice submitted a summary/highlights from the May 17-18, 2024 BOG meeting:

Highlights from SEANC BOG – May 17-18, 2024

Presentation from Sam Watts, NC Dept of Treasurer

• Change of staff in the Treasurer’s office dealing with State Health Plan

• Health Plan retains one (1) month of income on hand $564 million

• Legislature under funded the State Health Plan by $240 million

• No increases in premiums this year

• Health Plan saved 100 million by NOT funding the weight loss drugs

• Modest premium increases over the next two (2) years

• $33 mo increase in 2025

• $545,000 spent on Covid testing – not reimbursed by Federal

• Review of pharmaceutical contracts – process started in November

• 10items on review have still not been addressed

• Hired new Auditor for State Health Plan -Errors have been found

• Exit Auditor hired to find hidden charges/fees from BCBS

Jimmy Davis resigned as Western Regional Rep (replaced by Cliff Johnson)

Also ByLaws Chair, replaced by Kim Martin

Districts are asked to place their events on the SEANC calendarand implement activities that will help with the growth of the Organization (attracting younger members)

After discussion, motion made to reduce the reserves from 12months to 9 months…

Motion seconded – vote taken by standing…motion failed

Staff will not attend District Annual Meetings except by invitation. Email Jacque any requests for staff and officers to attend asap.

Problems with Luther Sales…Members not receiving items, poor customer service.  Staff (Brenda Johnson) is working with the company.

Convention – September 4-7, 2024 – Greensboro

• The Power of the Past is the Strength of Our Future

• President’s Reception – Wednesday night

• Awards Banquet – Mardi Gras theme – supply your own masks

• Breakout sessions will take place on 3rd floor to make more traffic for Entrepreneur Alley.

• Entrepreneur Alley offered at a daily cost of $60/day

• Received two proposals for 2025 Convention – KouryCenter and Harrah’s more info will be obtained and vote will be taken at the July BOG

IT update:

• Phase 1 – Replacing Impexium  -June 1

• Phase 2 – ETL (Extract /Transfer/Load) -starts June 1

• Phase 3 – Final Deliverables

o IT Build $950,000

o Operational IT Support $40,000 a month

o IT Build – Significant Features - $440,000

o IT Build will take 8-10 months

o Cost - $1.3 Million basic, $1.8 Million includes all

o Motion made for $1.8 Million – Seconded, Voted, Motion Passed

New Auto Warranty program presented through TOCO

• Available July 1

• 10 y/o – 150,000 mile limitation

• Three (3) programs available $55/mo - $70/mo and $100/mo

• Must take vehicle to Certified Mechanic -Nationwide program

• $200/deductible

Campaign Training is being planned – In-person so members can work at polls during elections.

Would like for each District to get some members trained.  There will be a registration fee.

Committee Reports:

Audit – Has four (4) vacancies on committee submit application w/resume

District that used funds to purchase alcohol has paid back funds

Committees are to submit through BOG a plan for all events being held for the year

Maintaining SEANC’s Branding is crucial

Please note:  statewide committees are prohibited from directly soliciting funds from Districts or from Corporate donors.

Awards – same District May not win the District of the year award mor than 2 years in a row.

Award recipients are not eligible to win in the same category for two years in a row

Judging will be held on August 6, 2024

Benevolence – Submit photos for deceased District members for the Memorial PowerPoint.

Jon will be sending out a list to the District Chairs.

Bylaws – Districts need to submit any statewide (new or changes) bylaws to the committee within 10 days after your Annual Meeting or by July 15.  Bylaw form (fillable) is on the SEANC webpage.

Connections – No applications, one (1) inquiry

DHHS – 90-100 unstaffed positions presents unsafe conditions

Call if you would like Kathy to attend your meetings

Emerging Leaders – Fundraiser resulted in $2951. For the Committee

Annual Health & Wellness Fair will be held on June 15th

Training workshop planned for June 29th

EMPAC – Major loss for Dale Folwell and Michael Ray

Endorsed Wesley Harris, and will build a good relationship, need to get him elected

Million $ campaign -stuttering -not many contributors

Next meeting (in-person & zoom) June 1 Endorsement trainingfor candidate interviews

August 17th meeting (closed) for Endorsements

Public Ed – 3 new members; UNC Chancellor Cup will be held on September 27 and SEANC will be corporate sponsor again this year.

Growth & Expansion – Activities have been planned; SEANC Mascot

Will have a naming contest; Virtual District is being developed, none voting and just for info sessions; Social event planned for June (Sip & Paint -non alcoholic); Scholarship to Convention – applications to go live in June – one (1) person per Region.

Membership – Have held meetings via zoom

West Blitz recruited 50 members for Districts 2,5,6,9

407 new members in March, 364 members in April

On social media – share or like…. it puts info out to other people

Google still showing some negative views so they posted “What has SEANC done for me lately”

New Campaign- Drawing for $250 gift card, recruit 2 members to submit for drawing

Next meeting July 12 -let Carrie if you want to attend (District to pay for reimbursement of travel)

Membership count by July 31 will determine Convention Delegate count.

Policy Platform – District Chairs are asked to distribute the forms off the web page and review at their annual meetings.  Districts please submit 10 policy platform issues per district.

Committee will meet via zoom on July 16 District at 10am and Statewide at 11am

Prison Reform – Attended One Voice meeting in Chicago

Week June 3-9 is recognition of correctional officers

Severe shortages continue What can be done to eliminate the vacancies? And How will AI make changes to the profession?  Are questions that need to be answered.

Retiree Council – Vacancy in West filled by Pat Reighard, District 3

July 15th deadline for application to Council (send to Lynn Cote)

Many upcoming Retiree Forums, contact Carrie first before your district sets a date

Grandchildren scholarships – 28 received, 2 per Region will be awarded.

Students were notified all at one time what was missing.

Students need to submit info not parents

Once a recommendation is received, the student is notified

Can go back in system for District to evaluate rankings

Talley will be sent to Districts next week

Phyllis can send out applications to Districts if needed for local scholarship awarding

Scholarship – Bowl-a-thon is back – looking for donations for the silent auction

Statewide there were 222 completed applications – Reviewing the next couple of weeks for awarded for State.

One (1) seat available for committee in each Region.  Seat in West available now…can be by President Appointment. There will be nominations from the floor at Convention.

Committee Reports:

* Audit – Karen reported that the committee met on 2/7 (this was the first audit since Robin took over as Treasurer). There were no findings. June 6th is the next meeting.
* Awards – TJ and Janice will be meeting to assess the Awards for the District.
* Community Service – No Report
* Communications – Pat reported that he will be producing a newsletter and asked the members to send him information to be included.
* Fundraising – TJ reported that everything went well with the golf tournament, except for the rainy start. Registration went smoothly. All the golfing teams that registered, showed up. We had 56 sponsors, setting a record. The raffle set a record netting $1100. After expenses the tournament brought in revenue of $7300. TJ thanked everyone for stepping up and making this the most successful tournament to date. Everyone always pulls together and makes the event a fun and profitable for the District. TJ will have the thank you letters available to distribute to the sponsors at the Annual Meeting. Submit any suggestions to TJ for any changes to make the tournament better. Bob announced that the Boone Golf Club team won the High Country Cup.
* EMPAC – Kathy announced that the State EMPAC committee will be meeting in Raleigh next Saturday, June 1st.
* Insurance – Janice announced that the IB has been presenting the Educational Sessions monthly since January, highlighting the insurance products that are offered by SEANC. The last session highlighted Life Insurance (whole life vs term) held on May 7th. The next session will feature the new offerings from MetLife, Pet Insurance and Identity Protection. The policies are available now and have multiple outstanding features. If you don’t have a SEANC insurance product compare and save…Insurance products have contributed over $730,000 to the operation budget of your organization.
* Membership – Bob reported that the next AppState New Employee lunch will be on June 21st.

Committee will be looking into holding an Employee Appreciation event with a food truck.

* Nominating – TJ is working with Kim asking for volunteers for Exec. Bd positions.

Audit – Karen; Chairperson – Janice; Vice Chair. – TJ; ByLaws – Pat; Membership – Bob

Have been accepted…we still need someone for Policy Platform

* Retiree - Janice reported that she will be contacting several locations for a forum to be held in Watauga County. Pat has been appointed to fill the remainder of the term vacated by Tony Smith to represent the western region.
* Scholarship- Robin explained that the scholarship process was on-line this year. There were 11 applicants. 2 financial need, 7 merit and 2 member only. 7 scholarships were awarded in the amount of $5,000. Scholarship winners were invited to the District Annual Meeting and will be presented with their award letters
* Social Media – The District Bulletin Board has been updated with the latest information. Karen updated Facebook with the Golf Tournament info/pictures.
* Karen and Robin encouraged the members to submit photos and information to be posted to the SEANC media pages. Send the photos with descriptions to Robin and Karen via email.

Go to Google and “like” SEANC to increase their ratings.

Reports from Western Region:

* Cliff announced another correctional offer was killed.

The SEANC IT Department has a new hire, making three (3) full time employees. They will be able to maintain the new system. Cliff will be attending the State Retiree Board meeting as the Vice Chair of the Retiree Council and will be updating the membership in regards to the information from the Board meetings.

* Adam reviewed all the agencies that he has visited in Watauga, Avery and Mitchell. He asked members to let him know of contacts that they have in the agencies so he can set up some “snack & chat” sessions. Janice contacted that Adam has a great presentation and the members would benefit if he would have a training session with them. A date in July will be considered and the training will be recorded to use it for future recruitments. Anne asked Adam to meet sometime with herself and Rhonda to talk about contacts in Avery/Mitchell.

Old Business – The 2023-24 District Budget – There was a motion, seconded to accept the 22-23 budget and adopt it as the 23-24 working budget. Robin will obtain a copy of the 22-23 budget from Teresa.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25pm

New Business – TJ asked the members to consider holding the District meetings via zoom…to conduct business. Social events/gatherings can be planned between scheduled meetings.

The District 3 Annual meeting will be held on June 18th at 6:00pm at Daniel Boone Inn in Boone. Please RSVP to TJ by June 10th if you will be attending and if you will be bringing a guest.

The next regular District 3 meeting will be held at Mike’s Inland Seafood Restaurant in Boone at 6:00 pm on July 23rd.