



# Retired Public Employees Council of Washington



## Chapter 35 - King County/Metro Retirees

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[www.rpecwa.org](http://www.rpecwa.org)



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Retirees:

There is a light at the end of this COVID tunnel.....and it is more than overdue as far as I am concerned. The daylight hours are getting longer each day, the sun seems to be shining a bit more, and the trees are abloom with new life and beautiful flowers. I have received my two vaccine shots and am grateful for the immunity they will provide.

Please, please join us for our April 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter 35 meeting. We will be electing officers and board members to help us with our endeavors. In this instance, the existing officers have agreed to serve for another year, and we have received two more nominations. Join us online or by phone. The directions to sign on are provided in the Meeting Notice Box at right.

Best regards to all – have faith and hang in there!!

-Vicki Schmitz, RPEC Chapter 35 President

### IMPORTANT CHAPTER MEETING!

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our **Virtual Membership Meeting at 11 AM on Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup>**. Members can participate online using a computer, or a smart phone. You can also dial in using a regular cell phone or land line.

Chapter 35 is ready to move forward with business and to conduct an **election** for chapter officers and board members to serve for a one-year term of office.

### CHAPTER 35 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday ~ April 13, 2021 at 11:00 AM

### AGENDA

- \* Election of Chapter Officers
- \* News from the Legislature
- \* Other Business

**Note: This meeting will be held via the Zoom audio/video application**

**To join the meeting online using a computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8510120811?pwd=eEJkVDRTMU1yNktXZHBONWNYbTg0Zz09>

Or go to: [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)  
Click on: "Join a Meeting"  
Enter Meeting ID: 851 012 0811  
Enter Passcode: 361042

**To join the meeting by telephone:**

Dial: 1-253-215-8782  
Enter Meeting ID: 851 012 0811  
Enter Passcode: 361042

The Board has received the following nominations of continuing Board members:

**President: Vicki Schmitz**

**Secretary: Anita Eakers**

**Vice President: Andrea Torland**

**Treasurer: Linda Zigler**

**Executive Board Members: Brad Berry, Colleen Boyns, Helen Harris, Kevin Kiernan, Trish Ryan, Dan Wasell, Robert Williams, and Chuck Zigler**

In addition, members **Duane Wright** and **Cindy Lee** have been nominated.

Additional nominations will be accepted at the outset of the April meeting. If only one candidate is nominated for a given position, the candidate will be declared elected by acclamation. In the event there is more than one candidate for a position, a secret ballot election will be conducted by U.S. mail.

### **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Members of our chapter joined with other RPEC members to meet with their state representatives during Legislative Days in February.

So far, legislation that would threaten our pensions, pension investments and health care benefits for retired state employees have not materialized. There has been no further discussion of a PERS 1 COLA this session.

As the session continues, RPEC follows bills that are related to retiree issues. For more, see below or go to: <https://rpecwa.org/?s=bill+summary>

### **FRIDAY LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

RPEC Executive Director James Cockburn and Contract Lobbyist Emily Murphy are conducting weekly Zoom meetings to update members on the legislative session and bill status. All members are welcome to join in the calls, which are held **every Friday at 1:00 PM**, and will continue throughout the remainder of the session (see box).

**To read the latest RPEC legislative updates, status of the bills we are tracking, and emerging news go to: <https://rpecwa.org/?s=weekly%20action%20newsletter>**

**RPEC of Washington**  
**Virtual Legislative Update Meetings**  
**Every Friday at 1:00 PM**

**To join the meeting online using a computer, tablet, or smartphone, go to:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82866346713?pwd=NkVEY2NsL1J6Z0dmQ0xEjQyTnFwQT09>**

**Or go to: [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)**  
**Click on: "Join a Meeting"**  
**Enter Meeting ID: 828 6634 6713**  
**Enter Passcode: 205507**

**To join the meeting by telephone:**

**Dial: 1-253-215-8782**  
**Enter Meeting ID: 828 6634 6713**  
**Enter Passcode: 205507**

***Note: For easy reference, the Meeting ID and Passcode will be the same every week for these update meetings.***

## **RPEC STATEWIDE COMMITTEES**

After the 2020 Virtual Convention, members who requested assignments were appointed by the President of RPEC to committees to continue the work of our organization until the next convention in 2022. All other RPEC members are welcome to participate as non-voting members. Here are descriptions of the committees that Chapter 35 members are now serving on:

### **Membership Committee –**

Provides guidance and support to the Board, chapters and RPEC’s chapter membership chairs on accomplishing RPEC’s membership goals and objectives. Develops and implements the statewide program that includes recruitment, retention, and reactivation of lapsed RPEC members. Members make periodic reports or updates on meeting RPEC goals and objectives.

### **Legislative Committee –**

Develops the proposed RPEC legislative agenda for approval. Assists the Executive Director and Lobbyist in carrying out the legislative plan, including planning legislative days and facilitating communications with legislators. Communicates with members about legislative actions on an on-going basis and supports member-based political programs.

### **Political Action Committee (PAC) –**

Meets in each election cycle to make recommendations on State Legislative candidates to be endorsed by RPEC and to vote on contribution amounts for these endorsed candidates. The committee considers legislators’ records, input from lobbying, and interview results reported by members, chapters, and districts. The committee may make recommendations to the Executive Board on candidates and ballot issues.

### **Legislative Advocacy Review Committee –**

A select committee created by the passage of a resolution at the Convention to study RPEC lobbying efforts in all regards, with attention to lobbyists, Lobby Days, member involvement and other issues. The committee will end its term with a report to the Executive Board.

#### **Important Dates - All events will be held virtually**

April 13, 2021	Chapter 35 Membership Meeting
April 22, 2021	RPEC Legislative Committee Meeting
April 26, 2021	RPEC Finance Committee Meeting
April 27, 2021	RPEC Membership Committee Meeting
May 6, 2021	RPEC Executive Board Meeting
May 24, 2021	RPEC Chapter Treasurer’s Training
June 8, 2021	Chapter 35 Membership Meeting
June 14, 2021	RPEC Leadership Training

For details about meeting times and how to join the meeting, call the RPEC office at 1-800-562-6097 or view the calendar on the RPEC website at:

<https://rpecwa.org/calendar-3/>

**For questions or comments on this newsletter, contact Andrea Torland at [andrea@msn.com](mailto:andrea@msn.com), or Bill Ziegler at [flzwez@hotmail.com](mailto:flzwez@hotmail.com) or call (206) 713-1879.**