



Retired Public Employees Council Chapter 37 – Lynnwood Area

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Meeting Date: Thursday, May 2nd, 2024

Meeting Time: 1:00 PM

Computer Login Information:

Phone Login Information:

Meeting Location:

Go to <https://zoom.us/join>

Dial: (253) 215-8782

Mountlake Terrace Library

Meeting ID: 875 2765 8007

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23300 58th Ave W

Passcode: 108208

Phone Passcode: 108208

Mountlake Terrace, WA

98043

NOTICE

Nominations and Elections for delegates to the 2024 RPEC Convention

will take place at the **May 2nd meeting**. The convention will be held at the Wenatchee Convention Center from September 24 - 26, 2024.

Discussions at the meeting will include the upcoming convention, chapter budget, June luncheon, and ideas for membership activities. Come join us and you may also win our drawing for a \$50.00 gift card.

Chapter 37 April 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Call to order:

Officers: Brenda Williams, President, present; Bill Dehmer, Vice President, present; Kathy Chapman, Treasurer, present; Linda McCullough, Secretary, present.

Introductions of members and guests: Bonnie, Adrienne, Lillian, Darlene, Alan, Vala, Bill and Barbara N, Cheryl.

Guest speakers:

Michelle Reitan, Social Worker, and Sue Shearer, RN, at the Edmonds Waterfront Center (EWC).

Both speakers talked about the history of the building, and the social, medical, educational, and recreational programs offered by the EWC. Programs include special events, art classes, music classes, foot care, counseling, day trips, SHIBA, board and card games, support groups, exercise classes, legal advice, and more! The EWC works with many

agencies to bring as many services as possible for all ages. Michelle and Sue provided a tour to chapter members.

District 1 Report: Cheryl reported that the Leadership training announcement was posted for June 10th and June 14th. Open to anyone interested in being an officer in a chapter or wanting to know more about RPEC. Also, save the date for a District meeting sponsored by the Everett RPEC Chapter 6 for state legislators on June 4th. The meeting will be in Marysville or Everett.

The RPEC Strategic Plan is in the implementation phase. The Executive Board has established an Ad Hoc Committee, and they are establishing a Special Task Force to review the governance and fiscal aspects of the plan.

The Executive Board also recommended that the Membership Committee review and expand member advocacy.

January 4, 2024, Meeting Minutes: M/S/Vote; Darlene/Adrienne/passed

March 7 Meeting Minutes: M/S/Vote; Kathy/Adrienne/passed

Treasurer's Report: Here is the Monthly report.

Beginning Balance is \$10,441.84. Income is \$305.20. Ending Balance is \$10,747.05. Motion Adrienne Second Lillian - passed.

Kathy discussed putting some of the chapter's funds into a CD earning 4.4% for Motion to open a CD in the amount of \$5,000 at WSECU. M/S/C

Audit not yet scheduled. Adrienne, Alan, and Darlene were appointed to be Trustees. Audit scheduled for 4/24/2024 at the MLT Library.

Membership Committee:

Two members passed. We have 210 members.

Discussed outreach to new members with activities such as a BBQ, coffee gatherings, and holiday reception.

Old Business: We are looking for someone to step up and assist with taking the minutes.

New Business:

Chapter 37 Budget discussion:

Brenda mentioned some of the chapter expenses, such as meeting snacks, conventions costs, supplies, gift cards, luncheons, mileage reimbursement.

-Continue discussions on our budget. Motion made to open a 7-month CD with \$5000 at WSECU. Motion Adrienne Second Barbara - passed.

-RPEC 2024 Statewide Convention:

Our chapter can send up to 8 delegates to the statewide convention in Wenatchee which is September 24-26, 2024.

-At our next chapter meeting, we will see who is interested in attending the convention as a delegate and have elections.

-June Luncheon: Discussed possible places to have the luncheon at Spiro's, Sparta's, or Roundtree all on Aurora. Luncheon will be on June 6.

Drawing for one gift card: Winner was Linda.

May 2, 2024, Chapter 37 meeting will be at the Mountlake Terrance Library.

Adjourned: 3:20 pm

RPEC Website RPECWA.ORG

Toll Free **1-800-562-6097**

Direct **360-352-8262**

Chapter 37 newsletter by E-Mail only? Just call us.

Sign up for text alerts: Just text RPEC to 237263
This is great for quick legislative information.

April 2024 Executive Director's Report

Convention 2024, Sept. 24-26, Wenatchee Convention Center

Are you interested in serving as a chapter delegate to RPEC's biennial Convention? You do not need to be an officer or chapter committee leader to attend. Any member in good standing is eligible to serve as delegate. If you are interested in being considered for your chapter's delegation to Convention, contact your chapter president. Delegates are chosen by election at a chapter meeting. If you are selected to represent your chapter, your Convention registration fee and lodging will be covered by your chapter. Guests may also attend at their own expense. The registration fee is \$150, which covers the Convention packet and all meals. The Convention hotel is the Coast Wenatchee. The RPEC rate is \$116.00 per night before taxes and fees. Visit www.rpecwa.org for more details or contact your chapter president.

Federal Advocacy

Call to action on The Fiscal Commission Act of 2023: If you have not already done so, please join your fellow RPEC members and AFSCME Retiree chapters nationwide in urging Congress to oppose The Fiscal Commission Act of 2023 (H.R. 5779). If this legislation is approved, your federal benefits will be at risk. The Fiscal Commission Act of 2023 (H.R. 5779) will create a 16-member fiscal commission to search for ways to reduce the national deficit and balance the national budget. Funding for Social Security and Medicare will be targeted for cuts. **Call 844-331-0441 today! Tell Congress to vote NO on this bill and similar proposals calling for fiscal commissions that aim to reduce your hard-earned retirement benefits.** A detailed [position paper](#) about the proposed debt commission is available at <https://retiredamericans.org>.

Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) To Vote on Potential New Pharmacy Benefit, April 11

On April 11, the PEB Board will act on a resolution that will change the pharmacy benefit for Uniform Medical Plan (UMP) Classic Medicare. RPEC's Legislative Committee supports this

change, as it will lower monthly premiums for most plan subscribers. The medical benefits in the plan will remain unchanged. The new pharmacy benefit will continue to be administered by Moda to provide continuity of service and care for retirees. By making this plan more affordable, the new benefit, if adopted at the April PEB Board meeting, will help to ensure that an employer-managed plan remains in the mix of healthcare plan options available to public sector retirees. Currently, all but two plans are privatized. Preserving traditional Medicare continues to be a key federal priority for RPEC, in addition to preserving these options for the public sector retirees in Washington. Members are encouraged to attend the April 11 meeting and offer comments during the Public Comment period. Visit www.hca.wa.gov for more details.

State Advocacy

Beginning this month, the Legislative Update Calls will be held monthly, the first Friday of each month. Please join us on April 5 from 2-3 p.m. Details are available at www.rpecwa.org.

Council Welcomes New Team Member

Jane Hewitt joined RPEC in mid-March as our new Finance and Operations Specialist. Jane brings more than 40 years of relevant work experience to RPEC. She is married with grandchildren, originally hails from Great Britain, and is an animal lover with three rescue pets. Jane can be reached at jane.hewitt@rpecwa.org. Please give her a warm welcome to RPEC!

Upcoming Events

Visit www.rpecwa.org for a full calendar of Council Office and chapter meetings.

- April 25 Membership Committee (10 a.m.)
- April 25 Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- April 26 Council Office Closed, Team Retreat (9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
- May 3 Legislative Update Call (2:00 p.m.)
- May 6 Executive Board Meeting (9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- May 7 Executive Board, Strategic Planning (9:00-12:30 p.m.)
- May 8 Public Service Recognition Week (at Heritage Park, Olympia)
- May 9 Public Employees Benefits Board (9 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- May 9 Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- May 17 Leadership Training Registration Deadline
- May 20 Political Action Committee (10:00 a.m.)
- May 21 Select Committee on Pension Policy (10:00 a.m.)
- May 23 Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 p.m.)
- May 27 Council Office Closed, Memorial Day