

**Coalition of Retired Employees (CORE) Member Meeting
July 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Fort Worth Botanic Gardens– 10:30 a.m.**

Committee Members in Attendance: Committee Appointments in Attendance:

Karen Van Leuvan, President

Alison Letnes, Membership

Alison Letnes, 2nd Vice President

Yolanda Gonzalez, HBAC Representative

Marolee Lunsford, Secretary

Deborah Duke, Treasurer

Marsha Anderson, Past President

Absent: Carol Brown, 1st Vice President and Programs Director, Joel Carranza, Communications.

CFW Retirement Fund: Eleza Bennett, ERF Benefits Manager

CFW Human Resources: Nathan Gregory, Deputy Director of Human Resources
Megan Hailey, HR Benefits Coordinator

10:31 a.m. Welcome - President Karen Van Leuvan made opening remarks.

Membership Report – Alison Letnes’ report stated that we have: 23 Lifetime (\$100.00), 72 Monthly Deductions (\$.50 monthly), and 83 Regular Memberships (\$5.00 a year), for a total of 178 CORE members. Alison also stated we have more CORE shirts. Polo shirts are \$20.00 and T-Shirts are \$10.00. We also have a CORE Emergency Fund that provides \$50.00 for a retiree in need.

Karen noted that there is a sign-in sheet on the table as well as our new brochure.

Treasurer’s Report – Deborah Duke gave the Treasurer’s report through May 31, 2022: \$6,036.95 in Shares Savings Account, \$721.13 in our checking account, and \$89,581.77 in our 24 Month CD account. Deborah stated for any expenses greater than \$500.00 there must be a vote approval by the membership. Our website vendor no longer wants to renew their contract with us after the end of this year. We will need to take ownership of our domain name and files, find a new vendor who can manage our site and bring it into the 21st century, and add a content management system that lets us post routine updates ourselves. The Board is requesting to spend up to \$1,000 for a new vendor, and to make the change now instead of waiting until the current contract ends. A motion was made in favor of the proposal by Marsha Anderson and seconded by O. R. McClain. The motion was approved by CORE members with one dissenting “no” vote.

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Eleza Bennett, ERF Benefits Manager, informed the members of a class/seminar at the Retirement Fund, September 1, 2022, Thursday beginning at 10:00 a.m. Attorney, Travis Weaver will be making the presentation. He will cover information regarding wills, trusts, probate and other important legal issues. Because space is limited, you must call the Retirement Fund main line to sign up for this important seminar at 817-632-8900. Karen stated CORE will push out an email to remind members of this seminar. Eleza stated that after not having the Holiday Party the last couple years because of COVID-19, there will be one this year.

Marsha Anderson, Core Past President and Trustee for the Employees Retirement Fund Board (ERF), provided a pension update. First, she stated that she is in her last year on the ERF and she is still looking for a feisty individual to replace her. Elections will be held in May 2023 with the term beginning in September 2023. Texas Pension Review Board (PRB) is looking at retirement funds. We have twice had to defend raises and one time the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). PRB said we are being watched, but we were grandfathered for 10 years. The Fund is down 9%. Derrick Dagnan, CIO for ERF, in a letter to ERF Trustees, showed that all assets are down, and the prospects of a US recession are increasing. A comeback might be miraculous, but as they say, stranger things have happened. Marsha stated that retirees will still get their checks and not to panic. Marsha then introduced new ERF City council-appointed trustee Doug Wilson, recently retired from Frost Bank. He stated these are unprecedented times and the ERF and its Investment Committee are trying to do their best to manage the Fund. Marsha stated our new website will come in handy if we have to fight for raises again.

It was also noted that we have a position on the HBAC for the non-Medicare representative.

Megan Hailey, HR Benefits Coordinator, then gave a presentation stating that 2023 Benefits for Non-Medicare will have no changes. Aetna Medicare Advantage will possibly have a new Pharmacy Benefits Manager. Stephanie Roberts, HR Communications person also introduced herself. At this time not sure if the rates are going up and also there are no changes to the Medicare Advantage plan.

For retirees under 65 Meritain Health and Accolade are still your health plan and health plan navigator/support. Parts of your plan that were launched last year are:

1. Virta, app-based diabetes management plan
2. Hello Heart, an app that helps in managing blood pressure.

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3. Ability to get a 2nd opinion once you have been diagnosed. This is done virtually and this has provided great results.
4. Hinge Health, which is virtual physical therapy. This can be set up on your IPAD, phone, computer with a camera and you can send pictures for review.
5. TELADOC is a program where you can call or video chat with a doctor 24/7, 365 days a year. Also have mental health phone and chat. This also includes dermatology. This is great when you can't get to a doctor. This is provided at a low cost of about \$49.00 by calling 1-800-teledoc.

Healthy Challenge will be online by August 31, 2022. You can fill out the required forms and submit. You can reach them by calling 888-671-9395.

Megan then took questions and comments from the members. Members stated they were very pleased with Aetna and hope it will be renewed when the next RFP goes out. Megan also stated that members like Accolade as it is such a great service and really represents them. Karen would like a copy of the presentation so it can be made available to our members.

Karen thanked our speakers and stated that the next meeting will be held September 12, 2022 at the Como Community Center

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Marolee Lunsford, CORE Secretary