

**Coalition of Retired Employees (CORE) Member Meeting
September 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Como Community Center – 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

Joel Carranza, Communications

Deborah Duke, Treasurer

Marsha Anderson, Past President

Absent: Carol Brown, 1st Vice President and Programs Director

Presenter: J. J. Jones, LCEM (Emergency Management Professional and Lifetime CORE member)

CFW Retirement Fund: Derrick Dagnan, ERF CIO

Eleza Bennett, ERF Benefits Manager

Retirement Fund Board of Trustees: Doug Wilson

10:34 a.m. Welcome - President Karen Van Leuvan welcomed those in attendance. She also stated that the next CORE meeting will be in November. This is our entertainment and refreshments meeting. The meeting will be held at the Como Community Center.

Treasurer's Report: Deborah Duke provided the account balances of the Share (Savings Account) of \$5,286.95, Special Club (Emergency Fund) \$250.11, Heritage Checking Account \$1,116.35 and the 24 Month CD Account \$89,665.49. The CD will renew next year. The CD earns approximately \$40.00 per month in interest. The Emergency Fund provides a maximum of \$50.00 gift to those members in need, no questions asked. Karen stated the Emergency Fund was initiated by donations, if anyone wants to continue, we can discuss with the membership. Deborah stated that four (4) requests have been distributed.

Deborah then provided an update on the new website. The website is in the works and currently does not have a go live date set. We are trying to make it easy to use and will take suggestions for desired information to be provided on the site as well as any other ideas for the site. You can send your suggestions to the corecfw@gmail.com.

Membership Report – Alison Letnes' report stated that Membership has not changed since the July 2022 meeting: We have 23 Lifetime (\$100.00), 72 Monthly

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Deductions (\$.50 monthly), and 83 Regular Memberships (\$5.00 a year), for a total of 178 CORE members. Alison stated that last year we tried to do an account transfer for dues with the Credit Union. Currently, this can't be done so we are looking at other ways to do this. Let us know if you have any suggestions by emailing Alison at corecfw@gmail.com. Alison will send an email to let members know their status regarding dues for 2023.

The Health Benefits Advisory Committee (HBAC) has three (3) general employee positions; Medicare, Non-Medicare and Floater Medicare representatives. The non-Medicare position is open and we are looking for volunteers. Yolanda Gonzalez stated meetings in 2023 are March 24th, August 18th and November 17th. All meetings are 9:00 a.m. to Noon at the CFW Credit Union Board Room. Healthcare open enrollment is October 10-28. There are no changes so you do not need to do anything unless you need to make personal changes to your coverage. Also, Medicare is reducing premiums about \$20.00. The health center located in the Moncrief Center is going to close. A new location has been found on Hemphill St. Things are looking good for retirees as also no increase for non-Medicare retirees.

Karen stated that sad news is that we lost hundreds of retirees to COVID-19. This has made an impact actuarially on our insurance. She also stated that HBAC is now virtual, but by March they may be meeting back at the Credit Union.

Marsha stated that as the Retirement Fund Board elected General Employee representative, she has one more year to serve. There will be an election in May 2023 to replace her. She said the Fund has four (4) issues: **1.** The Executive Director, Benita Harper; Fund Board Chair, Todd Cox, Robert Holmes, Deputy Chair are leaving and Kevin Foster, Police representative, is stepping down. The Fund will be replacing Kevin at the September 28th meeting. **2.** the Fund is down \$600,000,000. **3.** There have also been complications with the DROP program, and **4.** One of our vendors sent a letter that two (2) of their employees are under indictment. Fortunately, these employees were not working on our account.

Marsha then introduced today's speaker, J. J. Jones, an emergency management professional and lifetime CORE member was introduced. Ms. Jones presentation will be on ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING. The Fort Worth area has had several active shooter incidents including Wedgwood Baptist Church in 1999 and West Freeway Church of Christ in 2019. General Services are also first responders being

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they are consultants in crisis management and emergency management. Ms. Jones stated we should also get to know neighbors and get involved in our communities.

Ms. Jones then showed the video AVOID, DENY, DEFEND about civilian response to an active shooter event. Some of the points in the video are: fight, but not fair because we deserve to live. We have three (3) options in this situation: AVOID the attacker, DENY the attacker access and DEFEND yourself against the attacker by locking doors, turning out lights, silencing phones, etc. Also, when police arrive obey their orders and instructions. What we do in a crisis situation matters! For more information check website: AvoidDenyDefend.org. Ms. Jones further stated that we have a right to defend ourselves. Situational awareness is crucial, look around, know surroundings, listen your gut when it speaks and leave. If you hear something that sounds like a gun, etc. check for an escape route and get out, take care of yourself. Ms. Jones then took questions and comments from the audience and handed out a tip sheet on what to do in case of an active shooter incident.

Being no further business to discuss after the presentation, the meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Marolee Lunsford, CORE Secretary