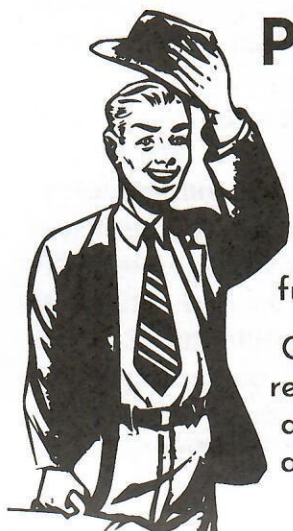
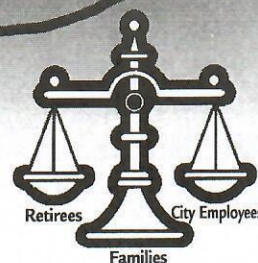


RECSL News

Volume XX, Issue 2
JUNE 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Mike Sullivan*

Greetings members and friends!

I am pleased to report that despite some setbacks our most difficult two years seems thus far more in the rear view mirror than ahead of us. However, the recent uptick in Covid cases suggests that masks and social distancing still may not be fully over.

Our April meeting featured a talk by Mr. Phillip Taylor. Mr. Taylor recounted his recent stroke and the aftermath. He informed us about TPA, a newer drug that if administered within the first three hours, can be life saving as well as minimizing any other damage.

Continuing with our monthly themes Jim Garavaglia spoke about April Fools Day. His research indicated that it was started in France in 1583! Jim was kind enough to regale us with examples of humorous April Fools jokes.

Our May meeting featured Capt. Mosby of the St. Louis Fire Department. He gave us an insiders look at some of the functions the department provides. This includes: firefighters, paramedics and EMT's, fire investigators, and natural disaster coordinators.

In keeping with our monthly themes Jim Garavaglia again selected the many holidays listed in May. These include: Physical Fitness Day, Asian American's Day, Jewish American's Day, Skin Cancer Awareness Day, National Bike Day and Mother's Day! Last but not least Memorial Day, which by the way, was only officially changed by Congress from Decoration Day in 1971.

Our meeting attendance has continued to steadily increase with a very nice turnout in May. Please encourage your friends to come and see us on the third Thursday of the month. And lets not forget our annual picnic on Thursday August 18th, see the back page of this newsletter for details.

**ANYONE NOT
RECEIVING
THE MONTHLY
PHONE
MESSAGES
ANNOUNCING
THE MONTHLY
MEETING
PLEASE CALL
MIKE
SULLIVAN AT
314-631-9158.**



UPCOMING ELECTIONS

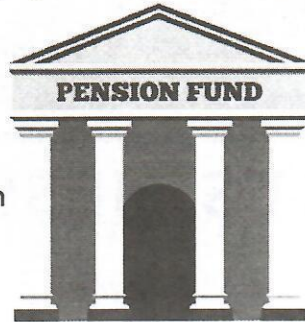
July 12th	Ward 11	Aldermen
August 2nd	Primary	Statewide
August 2nd	Ward 21	Special
November 8th	Statewide	General Election

The economy, inflation, stock market, cost of living and supply chain continue to remain in a state of flux making things, in general, chaotic. With China remaining committed to a zero COVID policy, recent lockdowns of Shanghai and Beijing continue to put pressure on supply chains and global trade flows.

Top contributors to inflation remain persistent. CPI continues to be led by energy, used cars and trucks and rents. The increased price of food will continue to drive the CPI higher. Despite the elevated inflation, consumer outstanding credit grew \$56 billion, the largest increase in history. In addition, U.S. average real weekly earnings are seeing a markedly share decline as a result of inflation that ramped up since the middle of last year.

The Federal Reserve, at their March meeting, revealed the central bank's plan to aggressively reduce its balance sheet to fight inflation. That stance drove rate hike expectations higher. It is expected a rate of 2.75% by year end and 50 basis points hikes at each of the next four meet-

ings fueling more inflation fears. Of course the interest rate increases have only impacted borrowing rates, ie: home mortgages, but have yet to affect interest rates on savings, CDs and money market accounts.



Investing has been a real challenge. Our investment advisor and our many investment managers work diligently to attain maximum returns for our fund. Because of the diversity of our portfolio, we have been able to minimize the adverse effects of the current market conditions. Your Board of Trustees meet

monthly, more often as necessary, to monitor and evaluate the performances and returns of our money managers. The stability and sustainability of the pension fund is our number one priority. The fund remains strong and has a current balance of more than \$800 million. We continue to seek additional investment opportunities to further strengthen the fund and ensure its future sustainability.

I hope everyone has a safe, healthy and enjoyable summer!



MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 17, 2022

The meeting was opened on Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 10:00am. The pledge was recited and there were no minutes for the month of February. The Treasurer's Report was given indicating a checking account balance of \$6,752.72 and the Franklin Fund balance of \$35,000.00 for a total of \$41,752.72 and a market value of \$37,768.27. The Treasurer's report was moved and seconded for approval pending audit.

The Pension Board Report is closely monitored with over 900 million dollars. Tom stated that pension funds are good and operating at 80%. The Federal Reserve has raised the interest rate, however its affect is unknown at this time.

Our speaker for the month was Gary Stoff from the Board of Election Commissioners. He spoke about issues of the upcoming election, Proposition R (removal of some of the power of the Board of Alderman, and Proposition 1(\$50 million bond issue). He also briefly talked about the special election for ward 28 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Heather Navarro as well as the general election in November where every aldermanic seat will be up for election (i.e. March 2023 for odd wards and 2027 for even wards. Gary provided information concerning a proposition to include ranked choice voting (RCV). This allows voters to rank their preferences in order and in theory will ensure that the most popular candidate wins. Everyone's name will appear on the ballot without party affiliation and voters can select up to four (4) candidates.

Mr. Stoff also spoke about Proposition D – non-partisan voting and the proposal submitted by

Continued from page 3

In Memorial

During 2022, we were notified that the following members have passed away:

John R. Tripi

Clifford Jokerst

John Meyers

Our deepest condolences to the families of deceased members and may they rest in peace.

New Members



During 2022, the following retirees have become members of our organization.

Randy Bastian
Cherly A. Benjamin
Frederick W. Bond
John Cournoyer
Christine A. Dussold
Ann Finn
Mozetta Finn
Cynthia T. Geiger
Sharon E. Holmes-Tubbs
Susan M. Jones
Charles V. Kraft
Norman Lewis
Joyce McFarlnad
Ruby Pierce
Beth Sebright
Peggy Ann Triska

We welcome them and hope to see them at our monthly meetings.

Treasurer's Report by Norm Sutterer

As of May 31, 2022 our balances are:

Checking Account	\$5,574.40	
Edward Jones Franklin Fund	\$35,000.00	(Mkt. Value \$37,161.55)
	\$40,574.40	



**I'm old enough to make
my own decisions..
just not young enough
to remember what
I decided..**

Note: RECSL Membership Meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month EXCEPT no meetings in January, and December (Christmas Party). The meetings are at the American Czech Center, 4690 Landsdowne, St. Louis, MO. Meetings start at 10:00 am.

RECSL Officers

President	Mike Sullivan	314-631-9158
Vice President	Tom Stoff	
Treasurer	Norm Sutterer	314-752-7997
Secretary	Theresa White	
Trustees	Gary Gooden	
	Marilyn Siebenman	314-497-8803
	Joanna Stoverink	
	Jim Gadell	314-781-6220
	Bill Olson	
ERS Pension Rep	Tom Stoff	
Newsletter	Jim Gadell	

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The services and information available in and through this newsletter including but not limited to website links are provided "as is without warranties of any kind."

Address Changes

A separate address change notification to RECSL is required in addition to the address change notification made to the Employees Retirement System. Please notify RECSL as soon as possible when you have an address change. We do not want you to miss a Newsletter or notice of an upcoming event. It is costly and time consuming to have mail returned to us, often the Post Office will not forward mis-addressed mail.

Address changes should go to:

RECSL
Joanne Stoverink
P.O. Box 190724
St. Louis, MO 63119-6724

MEETING MINUTES Continued from page 2

Alderman Sharon Tyus which requests three (3) elections in a municipal cycle. 1. Primary 2. Run-off Middle and 3. General. He also stated that the estimated cost of elections was \$375,000. Mr. Stoff also talked about the effects of redistricting and the reduction of wards as well as the fact that redistricting is in all levels of government – Federal, State and Municipal.

Many more questions were asked and answered and the presentation proved to be very informative.

The Social Committee: The St. Patrick's Luncheon will be held today after the meeting. Those wishing to participate can still make payments today.

Membership: Cheryl Benchman and Ann ?

Recognition and thanks was given to Matt's wife who sponsors our coffee.

ATTENDANCE PRIZES:

\$25 went to Joyce McFarland

\$15 went to Candace

\$10 went to Vince McGee

50/50 (\$97) went to Tom

Rollover went to Paul Ritter

Matt (from the Czech Center) announced an upcoming fundraiser on Saturday May 7th which will include a pork loin/roast duck dinner. More to come on this later.

We will plan to update contact information. Please see John Stoverink.

A motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 10:49am.

Submitted by Theresa White, Secretary,
Mike Sullivan, President

April 21, 2022 MEETING

The meeting was opened on Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 10:02 am. The pledge was recited and the minutes were read and approved for the month of March. The Treasurer's Report was given indicating a checking account balance of \$5,505.14 and the Franklin Fund balance of \$35,000.00 for a total of \$40,505.14 and a market value of \$38,223.31. The Treasurer's report was moved and seconded for approval pending audit.

Tom Stoff reported the pension status to be at 69% in February with increases everywhere, and the Federal Reserve voting to increase interest rates and a volatile uncertain market ahead. We have eighteen

(18) investment managers and each month the board monitors the performance of the managers. The pension is still strong and stable with over 890 million dollars in funds. The board is exploring other areas of investment.

Our speaker for the month was Phillip Taylor who spoke to the group about a very important medical concern – strokes. He spoke about having a stroke and much of the process he endured. He talked about how to prepare for an emergency of any kind and how he, having detected a problem occurring in his own body, was able to make the necessary contacts and received emergency treatments. He talked about a TPA (tissue, plasma activator) injection used to cause his blood to flow. Many questions were asked and answer and the presentation proved to be very informative.

Jim Garaveglia spoke on the events of April expressly the facts surrounding the history of April Fools' Day. He gave a short, brief explanation of its beginning and why it is celebrated. It is conclusive that until the adoption of the Julian calendar, April 1st was considered the first day of the year.

Captain Mosby is our expected speaker for the month of May.

Questions concerning future topics and speakers were requested. Our picnic is scheduled for the third Thursday in September at the Czech Hall as in the past. More information to follow.

Matt (Czech Center) invited everyone to pre-order for the Czech dinner on May 7th which includes bread dumplings, vegetable medley and dessert. You may opt to eat in the building or carry-out. The hours will be 11:30am to 6pm. The bar will be open. If interested, contact Matt to reserve your dinner.

Membership: no report

ATTENDANCE PRIZES:

\$25 went to Pat Prisinski

\$15 Vince McGhee

\$10 went to Tom Behan

50/50 (\$97) went to Pat Prinsinski

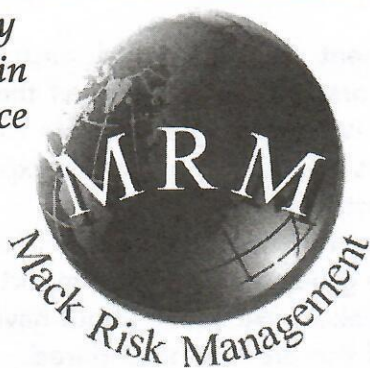
Rollover went to John Biliburto

We plan to update contact information. Please see John Stoverink.

A motion was made to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 10:44am.

Submitted by Theresa White, Secretary,
Mike Sullivan, President

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**Good Luck
to Members
of RECSL**

From

Gregory F.X. Daly

**Collector of Revenue
City of St. Louis**



**User Name: Retiree
Password: Relax**



**Mavis T. Thompson Esq.
License Collector
City of St. Louis**

Wishing you all a happy and safe





RECSL Picnic Notice

Thursday,
August 18, 2022
11:00 am

American Czech Center

4690 Landsdowne

FREE HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS

Beverages available at the hall

Attendance Prizes of \$100,
\$50 and \$25 for members only

Come and visit with friends and enjoy a FREE lunch!

