**Chapter Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: Wednesday January 22, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: 12:00 PM

Location: Teams Meeting

Program: the Benefit Initiative for Creating a Financially Secure Workforce Speaker: Chris Thixton

Total in Attendance:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| X | *Lisa Wakeley, President (SHRM-CP)* | X | *Julie Hoak, Certification Chair (PHR, SHRM-CP)* |
|  | *President Elect* OPEN | X | *Mandy Anderson, Membership Chair* |
|  | *Secretary* OPEN | X | Polo Castillo, Diversity Chair |
| X | *Rhonda DeWitte, Treasurer* |  | Alisa Wolf, SHRM Foundation Chair |
|  | Anna Garcia, Legislative Chair (SHRM-SCP) |  | Anita Carney, Education Chair |
|  | Communications Chair OPEN | X | Kendra Hull, Workforce Readiness Chair & Acting Secretary Interim |
| X | *Sally Hanrahan, Program Chair* |  |  |

\*Italicized denotes Officer of the Board

**Position Reports**

1. Secretary’s Report – Open Position

Action: Motion to approve Minutes: R. DeWitte

Second motion: T. Flanagan

Opposed: 0

1. Treasurer's Report – Rhonda DeWitte

Action: Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report: J. Mussman

Second motion: Mandy Anderson

Opposed: 0

1. President – Lisa Wakley
   1. 26th Annual IL SHRM State Conference will be held 3/31 – 4/2 – get registered now.
   2. Open Positions: President Elect, Secretary, Communications Chair. Do have someone for the Secretary for the position however, we would like to see if there are other volunteers. Will vote at the next Chapter meeting. Current Board Members are trying to step up and cover these positions during this time. Please be patient with us as we are trying to navigate these new tasks.
2. President Elect - Open
3. Programs – Sally Hanrahan
   1. Sally will attach the survey before we log off today. Please fill this out. Thank you.
   2. The February meeting will be at SVCC. It will be provided by Karen Smith – Managing Generations. Really good presentation, so please mark your calendar. It will last the whole hour, so, if possible, please adjust your schedule as this meeting may run a little longer.
4. Certification – Julie Hoak
   1. Will earn 1 credit toward your recertification.
   2. Julie will send the certificate via email to everyone in attendance.
5. Membership – Mandy Anderson
   1. Welcome our new member, Brenna Chapman. She will get added to our member list.
   2. Welcome to all of the new members.
6. Diversity – Polo Castillo
   1. Sauk Valley – Black History Gala on February 22 at the Dixon Elks.
   2. YWCA is planning the Women’s Appreciation Luncheon on April 17th.
7. Legislative – Anna Garcia – not present.
8. SHRM Foundation – Alisa Wolf – Not present.
9. Education & Workforce Readiness – Anita Carney – not present
10. Communications – Open Position
    1. Morgan did help us get the January newsletter out.
    2. Lisa and Kendra will do our best to get the February newsletter out as soon as we can.
11. Workforce Readiness Chair – Kendra Hull
    1. No report at this time.
12. **Today’s Presenter - Chris Thixton, Principal at Pension Consultants, Inc.**

For over 20 years, Chris has been an advocate for improving the financial security of employees in the United States. Chris shares his passion, knowledge, and experience as he educates clients, plan sponsors, and fiduciaries on the consequences of financial stress on people and workplace productivity. He currently serves on the leadership council for the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA) which is one of five member organizations of the American Retirement Association based in Washington, DC. As a member of ASPPA, he serves as both a Qualified Pension Administrator (QPA) and a Qualified 401(k) Consultant (QKC). As a subject matter expert in retirement plan fees, Chris testified in Washington D.C. at the Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration on fiduciary matters related to fee disclosure as part of the Hearing on Reasonable Contracts or Arrangements under Section 408(b)(2), and he has testified before the DOL’s ERISA Advisory Council. Chris pioneered PCI’s

vendor research system which includes extensive service-provider comparative analysis and benchmarking. Chris leads public workshops to train fiduciary committees, as well as conducts private training sessions for individual fiduciary committees across the country. He has spoken at over 100 conferences and programs throughout the country.

**Presentation Description - "The Benefit Initiative for Creating a Financially Secure Workforce"**

Financial insecurity and stress are wreaking havoc on workers. It affects their mental and physical health, as well as their working lives, in numerous and detrimental ways.  
In this session, we will gain a deeper understanding of employee financial security and how it impacts workplace productivity. We will also address the most effective and achievable way employers can use an existing resource to make a difference in the financial security and overall well-being of their employees.

**Old Business –** no Old Business

**New Business –** no New Business

**Meeting Adjourned**: 1:01 PM

**Next Meeting**:

## Chapter: **This presentation is likely to last longer than 1 hour.**

**Speaker: Caran Smith, Strategic HR Advisor, AAIM Employers’ Association**

Born and raised between Illinois and Ohio, Caran worked in management while earning

her undergraduate degree from the University of Findlay in Business Management,

graduating Magna Cum Laude, before continuing her education at the University of

Toledo College of Law, concentrating her coursework heavily on employment law. After

graduating in 2016, Caran continued her career as an HR Professional within a

Fortune 500 company where she gained a wealth of knowledge and experience in HR

policy and practice she can draw upon when advising and connecting members with the

resources provided by AAIM to assist them in navigating the complex and ever changing

HR environment.

**Topic: “Leading Multiple Generations in the Workplace”**

This Presentation will discuss Managing the different generations currently in the

workplace with a focus on gaining a better understanding of the unique characteristics,

expectations, and communication styles of each generation and how to leverage the

strengths of each generation to create a more inclusive and collaborative work

environment.

Board:

**March 12, 2025, 8 AM to 9 AM**