

**Wright State University Retirees Association  
Minutes of the Board Of Directors  
February 3, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Gary Barlow, Frieda Bennett, Marlene Bireley, Donna Curtin, Mary Gromosiak, Mary Kenton, Gary Pacernick, Gerry Petrak, Judy Rose, Bob Wagley, Gail Whitaker, Dick Williams

**Absent:** Abe Bassett, Peggy Bott, Elizabeth Harden, Jim Sayer, Lew Shupe, Carol Stevenson, Paul Wolfe

President Williams called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

MOTION: PACERNICK MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2. SECONDED BY BARLOW. THE MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**President—Dick Williams**

The Second Annual Retirees Luncheon Planning Committee continues to make progress on the plans for the May 6 luncheon. President Hopkins is scheduled to be our speaker.

In a chance conversation with the Provost, he stated that the controversial master plan for the campus that included the razing of several buildings has been scuttled.

The Presidential Luncheon has been tentatively scheduled on April 6th following our Board meeting.

A request has been received from the Ohio Retired Teachers Association (ORTA) to use our office for their executive committee meeting on March 14. A motion was made by Pacernick and seconded by Barlow to approve this on a one-time basis. Motion carried unanimously.

**Vice President—Mary Kenton**

**No report.**

**Past-President—Jim Sayer**

Absent. No report.

**Secretary—Abe Bassett**

**Absent. No report.**

**Treasurer—Gail Whitaker**

The Treasurer's reports for December and January were distributed and will be posted online when Webmaster Bassett returns from vacation. Major December expenses were the printing of *The Extension* and the new brochures. Over the two-month period, a total of \$1340 in dues was received. At the end of January the University account has a balance of \$3970.85 and the dues fund \$16,653.18. The \$3800 promised to the university fund has not been received. Petrak moved and Gromosiak seconded approval of the treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

**Communications—Marlene Bireley**

Marlene announced that Emily Bingham who is representing Wright State in the Jeopardy College Tournament now airing would be visiting the Board at 11 a.m. Emily is doing an internship with the Alumni Association on the third floor of the Foundation Building. When Emily arrived, the meeting was suspended briefly so that members could chat with this impressive young woman who shared some of her "behind the scenes" experiences at the Tournament. Although the taping has been completed, we wished her "good luck" in the semi-finals that will air next Tuesday. Marlene will interview Emily in depth for the next *Extension*.

Marlene presented a working draft of the Addendum to the 2015 Directory. The Directory includes corrections that have been received; all current members not posted in the 2015 Directory and a list of

deaths of faculty and staff that are known for 2014 and 2015. Additional corrections were requested by tomorrow (2/4). Whitaker suggested that the addendum be emailed to save mailing costs. Fifty-four members have no available emails and will receive snail mail copies.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Activities –Mary Gromosiak

Mary suggested that we consider a “coffee fund” of around \$100 be kept in the office since changes of rules and/or slow responses by the university delays reimbursement to members for minor purchases. No action was taken on this suggestion.

Upcoming events include two Presidential Lectures (Amy Purdy on 2/12 and Maysoon Zayid on 3/22) and a tour of the new Student Success Center Building (in April, exact date TBA).

Mary reported for the Luncheon Planning Committee that a “save the date” notice has been mailed and the formal invitations will be mailed on 2/25. The photographer has been scheduled. Other details are in progress and the committee will meet after today’s Board meeting to do additional work.

### By-laws and Elections—Judy Rose

Judy is putting together the officer’s slate for the spring election. Frieda Bennett will run for Communications Coordinator and Gary Pacernick will run for at-large member as will Marlene Bireley, if needed. A number of other names not now serving on the Board were suggested as possible at-large members or President-Elect.

A copy of the By-laws has been distributed and will be discussed in detail at the next meeting. A few suggestions were made and questions raised at this meeting with no resolution. Members are to send suggestions to Judy so that she can compile them before the next meeting.

### Historical Preservation—Lew Shupe

**Barlow reported** for Shupe that plans are underway to interview Lorna Dawes, former Director of Housing at WSU.

Work is underway with the archivists to develop exhibits and do interviews at the Spring Luncheon.

### Membership—Gerry Petrak

A list of the most recent retirees (53 persons) was distributed. If any Board members wish to personally contact anyone on the list to invite them to join WSURA, Gerry requested that the names be cleared through her so that duplicate contacts are not made. New brochures and a letter from President Williams will be mailed to everyone on the list.

Twelve retirees have been recruited to participate in the WSU Human Resources “Wright Path to Retirement” conference to take place on 2/17. Faculty and staff panels will discuss retirement issues and a WSURA table will have brochures and old *Extensions* available for distribution. (Participants are Dick Williams, David Garrison, Willie Gayle, Gail Whitaker, Carol Stevenson, Pam Berry, Mary Kenton, Gail Whitaker, Peggy Bott, Marlene Bireley, Gary Pacernick and Gerry Petrak.) The conference will be held in the Apollo and Atlantis Rooms in the Student Union. About 300 participants are expected.

### Scholarship Committee—Gary Pacernick

Pacernick urged Board members to continue their support of the scholarship fund.

### Sunshine—Peggy Bott

**Bireley reported for Bott the following death:**

Larry Ruble, painter, retired in 1997.

## LIAISONS

### **Alumni—Elizabeth Harden**

Absent. No report.

### **Athletic Council—Mary Kenton**

Mary reported that the swimming and track coaches attended the last meeting. The need for new facilities in these areas (including a new, Olympic-sized pool) was discussed.

### **Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow**

The new FOL brochure was disseminated to the Board members. Barlow announced that the next workshop, *Exploring the Archives*, will be held on 2/9 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Archives Room of the Dunbar Library. The archivists will display some of the Wright Brothers holdings as well as other unusual items from the collections including photos, architectural drawings, letters, scrapbooks, diaries and more.

On 1/21 the FOL sponsored a talk on “Weapons of Mass Psychological Destruction” by Larry James, Ph.D., and Terry Groszi who co-authored a book by the same name and a panel of guest experts who spoke on various aspects of terrorism. The large crowd included many community members, base personnel students and local mayors.

### **International—Bob Wagley**

No report.

### **OCHER—Paul Wolfe**

Absent. No report.

### **Office Assistant—Ri Molnar**

Ri reported that she had an inquiry about the benefits of WSURA membership beyond those afforded all retirees. A brief discussion ensued with the conclusion that we have never delineated the differences and this needs to be pursued. Free WSU gym membership is one definite advantage.

Ri also read a short list of names for whom mail is being returned. Information on two on the list was available but not the others.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned without a motion.

**The NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 2, 10:00am,  
210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive**

Respectfully submitted,  
Marlene Bireley  
Secretary Pro Tem  
2/3/2015