

**Wright State University Retirees Association**  
**Minutes of the Board Of Directors**  
**August 5, 2015**

**Board Members Present:** Gary Barlow, Abe Bassett, Frieda Bennett, Marlene Bireley, Donna Curtin, Mary Gromosiak, Mary Kenton, Gary Pacernick, Gerry Petrak, Jim Sayer, Lew Shupe, Carol Stevenson, Bob Wagley, Gail Whitaker, Dick Williams, Paul Wolfe.

**Absent:** Elizabeth Harden, Rich Johnson, Judy Rose, Peggy Bott,

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

MOTION: PACERNICK MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 25. SECONDED BY PETRAK. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**President—Dick Williams**

Parking tags will be late in coming this year, but current tags may be used beyond their date of expiration.

Summer enrollment is down slightly this year, compared to summer of 2014. Fall quarter enrollment is up 7.1%. International Student enrollment has increased by 474 from 2009 to 2015 [723 to 1197].

The First Annual Luncheon was a success and a date needs to be set soon for a follow up luncheon. The mid-May date worked well as school was not in session. A committee, chaired by the President, will be called soon. Barlow will join a committee, consisting of Wagley, Whitaker, Shupe, Gromosiak, and Williams. Barlow suggested attention be paid to the Friends of the Library model of planning speakers and themes three or four years into the future.

Bassett suggested that recognition be given to selected individuals who have made a significant contribution to the Retirees Association or to the University.

A brief and inconclusive discussion was held on the topic of paying speakers.

**Vice President—Mary Kenton**

No report as Vice President, but reports for Scholarship Committee and Athletic Liaison.

**Past-President—Jim Sayer**

The Alumni House (formerly Rockafeld House, the Presidents home) was destroyed during a recent windstorm when a large tree fell on the house. The house cannot be repaired and will probably be razed. The Alumni offices have been moved temporarily to the University Foundation building. A possible permanent home may be the former Wright Patterson Credit Union on Presidential Drive.

As of August 2014, retiree contributions totaled \$146,965 from 104 donors (average gift of \$1413.00.) \$6020 has been donated specifically to the WSURA Nick Davis scholarship fund, which now stands at \$64,000.00. Still available is \$4360.00 to match new contributors. A telephone campaign will be initiated in late September. New figures will be available after August 14.

**Secretary—Abe Bassett**

The secretary's goal is to have a preliminary draft distributed within 8 hours of the meeting, and to have a reasonably accurate draft distributed within 48 hours and posted to the website. He asks members to respond within 24 hours to make corrections or to respond to requests for clarification.

Members are requested to present written reports (or summaries) of their presentations during board meetings.

A listing of member's names and addresses was circulated for accuracy. Corrections will be made to the website and printed copies will be distributed at the next meeting.

### **Treasurer—Gail Whitaker**

Reports of June 30 and July 31 were distributed and discussed. The reports have been uploaded to the WSURA website.

A positive balance of \$536 for 2014-2015 has been carried forward to the new year. Of the \$10,000 of allotted University Funds, \$5800 was spent for communication and information, and \$2500 for student wages. Telephone services are \$382. Sarah Spitzer, Student Assistant, has been awarded an additional \$1,000 work-study award for 2015-2016, bringing her total to \$4,000.

The First Annual Luncheon made a profit of \$14.

### **Communications—Marlene Bireley**

The deadline for articles and information for the fall issue of *The Extension* is August 21.

In anticipation of an addendum to the Directory of Members, additions and corrections should be sent to Bireley at [mkbphd@aol.com](mailto:mkbphd@aol.com)

Members are asked to submit by August 21 a short self-profile (about three paragraphs, but not like an obituary) to include such newsworthy items as: family information; positions held at WSU; positions and activities with the WSURA; personal anecdotes (hobbies, volunteering, travel highlights, etc.)

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Activities –Mary Gromosiak**

Members are encouraged to send suggestions for activities, speakers or topic of interest to her at [mgromosiak@woh.rr.com](mailto:mgromosiak@woh.rr.com).

Gromosiak would like to find one or two people to be on the activities committee, persons who may be on or off the board.

The annual Health Fair has been set for October 21. Two special upcoming activities are the October 2 tour and luncheon at the Dayton Art Institute for “**Call to Duty: World War Posters & Tears of Stone**,” limited to 30 persons. On October 29, only 30 seats will be available for the La Commedia Dinner Theatre. The play will be ***The Church Basement Ladies: The Potluck Dinner***. A date for the Raiders Basketball game is pending.

### **By-laws and Elections—Judy Rose**

**Absent. No report.**

### **Historical Preservation—Lew Shupe**

The graduate degree program in Archive Management has adopted as an instructional model the WSURA methodology of conducting oral history interviews.

### **Membership—Gerry Petrak**

A total of 48 new members were reported added this year, according to a count furnished by the student assistant. Donna Curtin, Carol Stevenson and Frieda Bennett have volunteered to serve on the membership committee. Bassett explained that he can open and forward announcements when new members join the association through the web. A discussion as how to process new member ensued: how is money received, how are they billed, where does responsibility lie, are procedures articulated and followed? Whitaker remarked that work is needed on student assistant procedures.

### **Scholarship Committee—Mary Kenton**

Two \$1500 scholarships will be awarded this year to Lake Campus transfer Samantha Bowcher (a 4.0 GPA English major) and to Rosa Tweed (Art & Biology student) who continues her award from the previous year.

Gary Pacernick will assume the chair of the Scholarship Committee.

#### **Sunshine—Peggy Bott**

Bott reported (by email) the demise of the following persons: Shirlee Nicholson, Michael Ferrari, Sharon Brannon, Roger Iddings, Jon Rodriquez and Joe Fitzpatrick. Their dates are posted on the WSURA website.

Sayer reported the April death of William Hanks, Department of Communications.

### **LIAISONS**

#### **Alumni—Elizabeth Harden**

Absent. No report

#### **Athletic Council—Mary Kenton**

No report as there was no summer meeting.

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

No report

#### **International—Bob Wagley**

Names of foreign visitors are being gathered in anticipation of a late September meeting.

#### **OCHER—Paul Wolfe**

A comprehensive and important report of the May 19 OCHER meeting was delivered. Too lengthy to be included with these minutes, the report will be disseminated by email or presented in a news article on the WSURA website.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Sayer discussed the intricacies of the campus turmoil concerning the suspension of four highly paid administrators. University officials have been instructed to not discuss the situation as investigations are ongoing and may last until October.
- Barlow has been in communication with James Uphoff, reporting that Uphoff spirits seem positive. He is scheduled for release in November.
- Bassett showed a proof copy of his book *Producer's Notes, A Personal History of the Department of Theatre Arts at Wright State University, 1970-1988*. Copies are available now for \$7.95 by going to Amazon.com and entering "Abe J. Bassett" in the search bar. Copies will also be available at the next board meeting at \$5.00.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING: 10:00am, 210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive**

Respectfully submitted,  
Abe J Bassett, Secretary