Minutes of the April 5, 2006 Meeting

of the

Wright State University Retirees Association Board of Directors

Present: Bob Wagley, Don Swanson, Marlene Bireley, Alice Swinger, Nick Davis, Abe Bassett, Ken Davenport, Lew Shupe, John Ray, Lou Falkner, Barbara Eakins-Reed, Gerry Petrak, Elizabeth Harden, Leone Low

There was no report from the President, Vice President, or Secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The Treasurer gave a brief report.

Communications Coordinator and Extension Editor Marlene Bireley is waiting to include the WSURA election results in the next issue. She may also include the OCHER report of the March 21 meeting in the next issue.

Lou Falkner and Nick Davis reported on the March 21 OCHER meeting at the STRS Offices. There are a large number of serious problems facing the Retirement Systems. The membership needs to be aware of them. The next OCHER meeting will be May 16.

Lew Shupe, Historical Preservation Committee Chair, announced that Chris Widman, the new Archives Director, is scheduled to speak at the next meeting. The Library has a grant to collect oral histories, primarily from WW II veterans. They will hire Linda Peachnik to handle this. Additional volunteers are needed to examine the University photo archives in order to construct a photo exhibit for the October 1, 2007 40th Anniversary celebration.

Abe Bassett reported that there were twelve persons at the Lebanese Gourmet dinner that was held in their home. There were twelve persons at Liz’s Poetry Reading, etc. Helen Listerman would like to become involved in a similar activity. Bob Wagley suggested that the Gourmet Dining functions be opened to the University Community with special emphasis on those nearing retirement. Some of the recipes could be added to the WSURA Web Page. New retiree David Leach is interested in working with the Activities Committee. The University Theatre may present Grease as one of their productions next year. We would like to schedule meetings with the new men’s basketball coach Brad Brownell and Bridgett Williams, the women’s coach. We will visit the Frank Lloyd Wright designed house museum in Springfield in May. Check the WSURA web site for additional details. There is now an easier way to find it. The command Wright.edu/R is more convenient.

Barbara Eakins-Reed is working with Nan-C Mott with regards to the WSURA scholarship. Nan-C suggested that there be a quote from a past recipient in the solicitation letter.
Sunshine Chair Gerry Petrak will send a sympathy card to the family of Sherwin J. Klein. Gerry asked if the Board thought that honoring retirees’ anniversaries at the University Picnic was worthwhile. Opinion was unanimous that it be continued. It was suggested that instructions on how to find the Retirees’ tent be included in the letter of invitation. (Note. The following announcement has since been distributed: We are scheduled to meet on June 21 at 10:30 AM in the Millett Atrium near 139 Millett for the WSURA Annual Meeting prior to the picnic.)

Service Committee Co-Chair Bob Wagley announced that Gerry Petrak will assume the chairmanship of the committee next year. Bob will attend the International Friendship Bazaar on Saturday. The new University computer contract excludes retirees from obtaining computer software under it. It is no longer free or discounted. However, retirees can still qualify for the benefits by enrolling in a course. (Tuition is free.) Nick remarked that the new ID cards will need another number added before June. A key change has been requested.

Lou Falkner said that the Friends of the Library May 16 speaker Bonnie Matthews will talk on the need for libraries in a democratic society.

Ken Davenport reported on the WSU Athletic Council.

Old Business
John Ray moved that the Revised By-Laws report be accepted as amended. Ken Davenport seconded. Passed. Congratulations to John Ray and to Judy Rose for a thorough job. The revision will be sent to all members prior to a vote for approval at the WSURA annual meeting on June 21.

The motion was made that WSURA re institute the policy of a free one year membership in WSURA for new retirees. The motion was approved. The Membership Committee will be encouraged to invite the new retirees to lunch.

New Business
Alice Swinger remarked that Rich Johnson may not get the names of retirees in advance of their retirement. Alice is willing to work with Rich to obtain the information.

The meeting was adjourned.

Athletic Council Meeting—March 31, 2006

Submitted by Ken Davenport

The council heard a report from Mike Cusack regarding men’s and women’s basketball. The teams had a fairly good year, but they did not fare so well in the Horizon League Tournament. He told the Council the search for a new men’s coach was progressing. Note that later in the day, BRAD BROWNELL was appointed as our new coach. He
was the coach at UNC Wilmington for four years and took his team to the NCAA tournament two of the four years.

Baseball and softball seasons are underway. The softball team is 0-20. Mike said the new coach wants the team to play big time schools for the experience. He may have learned his lesson with this season.

The Council heard a report from Gary Dickstein about the very successful club ice hockey team. The team has been together for four years and recently won the ACHA (American Collegiate Hockey Assn.) Div. III national championship. That division has over 100 colleges. With their success, Gary hopes the team can move to Div. II. This is an all volunteer group associated with the team. They receive a small amount of funds from the University, but they raise most on their own. The team record over the four years is 84-14-4.

The NCAA recently considered a change in allowance for student recruiting. The proposal was to provide financial support for children of recruits when the student is on campus. WSU opposed the proposal, but the NCAA adopted it.

Fall quarter grades for athletes was a 3.0 overall.