

**Wright State University Retirees Association  
Board Meeting, March 4, 2015**

**Board Members Present:** Gary Barlow, Abe Bassett, Marlene Bireley, Peggy Bott, Elizabeth Harden, Mary Kenton, Rich Johnson, Leone Low, Gary Pacernick, Gerry Petrak, Lew Shupe, Carol Stevenson, Gail Whitaker, Bob Wagley and Dick Williams

**Absent:** Donna Curtin, Mary Gromosiak, Judy Rose, and Jim Sayer

President-elect Dick Williams called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Leone Low made a MOTION to approve the Feb.4, 2015 Board Minutes; seconded by Abe Bassett: THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**President, Jim Sayer** - absent, on vacation (report given by Dick Williams) **Vice-President, Dick Williams** – Dick reported that he and Jim continue to negotiate on behalf of keeping our current office space, but that a move is likely.

A meeting is scheduled with our campus representative, Vice-Provost Berberich, to discuss the matter and outline our needs. Elizabeth Harden moved (Petrak seconded) that a specific list of needs be presented: the space should be accessible (preferably first floor), near a conference room (preferably Liberal Arts because of our working relationship with that office), near rest rooms, near parking and with space comparable to that which we now have and close to a larger space for guest speakers and our annual meeting. Motion passed. Gary Barlow also suggested that we check out the new South Campus building (the old Wright-Patt Credit Union. Gary Pacernick requested that the increased cost of using the Fitness facilities (now \$150 annually) be discussed at the same meeting.

**Past-President, Abe Bassett** - Abe presented updated information on retiree contributions to Development/Scholarship funds. Salient points included:

- The total retiree contribution for the past three years is \$502,843, and since 2001, the total is \$631,009. At the average of total giving of the past three years, WSURA contributions will exceed the \$1,000,000 mark in FY 2017.
- The total retiree contributions for FY 2014 are \$178,379, from 196 donors, an average gift of \$910.
- The Nick Davis Scholarship Endowment Fund has increased by \$9,365 (from \$48,408) and now stands at \$57,773. It is anticipated that \$2800 will be available for 2015-2016 scholarships.
- 100% of the WSURA Board of Directors contributed to the Nick Davis scholarship endowment fund.
- The number of retiree givers increased from 9% to 19%, as the number of retiree givers increased from 85 to 196. The number of retirees increased from 933 to 1029. Approximately 37.5% of retirees are members of the Association.

**Secretary, Donna Curtin** – On vacation

**Treasurer, Gail Whitaker** – Members have responded to the dues requests. We have three new annual and seven new lifetime members for a total of 176 annual and 180 lifetime members.

Account balances as of 2/28/15 are \$4,613.91 in the university account and \$11,819.22 in the dues account. Major expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year include one more *Extension*, the new Directory and expenses related to the May luncheon.

**Communications, Marlene Bireley** – Marlene reported that the last *Extension* was completed by printing within a few days indicating that the delays experienced earlier have been corrected. The Directory is nearly complete; she and Sarah are looking for the campus positions of a few members who did not report that information and the recently added new members will be included. She also announced that Rosa Tweed, one of our scholarship recipients would be joining us later in the meeting.

## COMMITTEES

**Activities, Mary Gromosiak** –On vacation (Gail Whitaker reporting). Upcoming activities (all information is in the current Extension) include the visit to the Dayton Art Institute on March 18 (deadline for attending, March 11), the final Presidential Lecture on April 16 (Steve Baskin, disability advocate) and the May 14 Luncheon.

**By-laws and Elections, Judy Rose** –Absent. Judy sent word that the slate is complete except for a candidate for Secretary and she urged members to send her possible names so that she could contact them.

**Historical Preservation, Lew Shupe** –All scheduled interviews were cancelled because of weather, but four are scheduled to be completed.

**Membership, Gerry Petrak** –Gerry confirmed the information on new members that Gail reported. None of the new members are first year “free” members. There was a discussion of the difference between the number of names of new retirees that we have received and the number 96 that Abe received from Development. Gerry will contact Development to get their full list.

**OCHER, Rich Johnson** – No report. The next meeting is in two weeks. Paul Wolfe will attend. As he has done in the past few years, Rich has purchased twenty luxury box tickets for the Dayton Dragons opening on April 12. The cost is \$45.00 and includes food. Contact Rich directly if you wish to attend.

**Scholarship, Mary Kenton** – She has not yet received the timeline for scholarships applications/deliberations.

**Sunshine, Peggy Bott** – She had no deaths to report but Lew Shupe reported that William Hanks, COLA-Communications, died in February.

## LIAISONS

**Athletic Council, Mary Kenton** –No specific report. Given the poor showing of the men’s basketball team this year, the fate of the coach was questioned but this is not an official issue at this time.

**Alumni Association- Elizabeth Harden and Gary Pacernick**, Gary attended the last meeting. He had no specific report.

**Friends of Library, Gary Barlow** – The annual FOL luncheon will be held on April 15. The speaker will be Dr. Herbert Martin, retired University of Dayton professor, poet and Paul Lawrence Dunbar impressionist and expert. Some of the winter workshops have been rescheduled due to weather cancellations.

**International, Bob Wagley** – no report.

**OLD BUSINESS** - none

**NEW BUSINESS** –Marlene raised the issue that we have not contributed to a student organization, as was our practice for several years. Leone Low moved (Mary Kenton seconded) that we contribute \$200 from the dues account to the Student Food Pantry. Motion passed unanimously. Gail Whitaker volunteered to contact the Pantry to see if they preferred money or specific items.

Scholarship recipient, Rosa Tweed, joined us at eleven for an enjoyable question and answer session. She also joined several Board members for lunch after the meeting.

**Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

**Next meeting: 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, in the Millett Hall Conference Room**

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Bireley  
Secretary Pro Tem

