

Wright State University Retirees Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors
August 1, 2018

Present: Abe Bassett, Mary Kenton, Larry Prochaska, Donna Schlagheck, Dick Williams, Gary Barlow, Gail Whitaker, Judi Engel, Robin Suits, Mary Gromosiak, Dan Abrahamowicz, Sheryl Provens, Gary Pacernick & Joyce Howes.

Absent: Marlene Bireley, Peggy Bott, Larry Prochaska, Ruth Schumacher, Carol Stevenson

President Howes called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JUNE 6,
2018.

President—Joyce Howes

Joyce reported that:

- Gary Barlow has replaced the previous Boardroom Gallery items with an entirely new collection. Board members unanimously applauded Dr. Barlow's dedication and thanked him for his considerable efforts.
- Joyce reported that pursuant to a conversation at the June 6 Board Mtg, she contacted the Lock Shop and requested information about replacing the current lock for Room 210 Foundation Bldg with a keypad lock for approximately \$450.

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED THAT THE LOCK SHOP INSTALLS A NEW ON THE
WSURA DOOR.

Joyce has submitted a work order for the lock replacement.

- Joyce brought up the topic of the WSURA recruitment letter that should go out to all recent retirees. Challenges around securing an accurate mailing list have thwarted these efforts for some time. UPDATE: Since the Aug 1 meeting, Robin Suits has worked through multiple lists and secured a new, previously unavailable list from HR that will make the new list far more accurate than it's been in the past. Joyce will quickly move forward with reviewing and revising a letter to send to approximately 180 people who have retired since June 30, 2016. Great job, Robin!
- Joyce, Donna, and Larry will meet with President Schrader August 16 at 11am.
- President Schrader is scheduled to attend the November 7 meeting of the WSURA Board.

President Elect—Lawrence Prochaska

No Report

Immediate Past President -- Donna Schlagheck

The current WSU strategic planning process involves several groups, and the one led by Advancement & Alumni (of which I am a volunteer member representing WSURA)

has sent forward a recommendation that the strategic plan include a proposal to build retiree housing on campus, to be known as the "Village."

The housing market is a very dynamic part of the local economy, and many U.S. colleges and universities (Antioch, UC, for example) are planning to build housing designed for senior retirees and alumni. The current proposal calls for single-family homes/condos to be built in a wooded area on or near campus. Retirees could live in a walkable community, with hospitals, physicians, shopping, and the amenities of a campus within reach. WPAFB personnel are also considered candidates for this community.

Retiree residents could enroll in classes, mentor students, volunteer on campus, and engage and help diversity further the WSU community.

The building of WSU dorms offers a model for this development that would involve a partner to develop the property, without a capital budget investment by the university.

This concept has circulated before, but has not been recommended in a Strategic Plan.

Recommend reading the AARP Bulletin for July/August 2018 article "Retire with Class," That examines this trend.

Communication—Mary Kenton

Mary reported that the Communication sub-committee membership met and decided that each communication tool with the membership will have its own mission and that some duplication may occur to remind the membership of important events and milestones. Also, the next newsletter will be sent out around September 1 featuring a new layout designed by Judi.

Secretary— Ruth Schumacher

No Report

Treasurer—Sheryl Provens

The June, 2018 report is summarized below.

6\30\18 ending balance	10,551.19	
fy18/19 budget	7,000.00	
payroll	(6,875.00)	12.5 hours per week, 50 weeks @ \$11 per hr.
phone	(382.80)	
misc postage	(62.86)	
phone info	(0.30)	
supplies	(258.09)	
OCHER dues	(100.00)	
extension	(2,120.16)	
brochures Health Fair	(189.00)	
directory	(973.74)	
photos	(65.00)	
ballots	(437.91)	

key pad lock	(500.00)
estimated 6/30/19	5,586.33
balance	

STANDING COMMITTEES

Activities—Mary Gromosiak

The following activities are planned for 2018-19:

Thursday, September 20, 2018 – Woodland Cemetery Tour: History, Mystery, Mayhem, and Murder.
A fairly strenuous walk approximately two miles. Not conducive for walkers or resting places along the way. Length of tour: 1 ½ to 1 ¾ hours. No cost, but donations accepted through our guide. **RSVP** by Wednesday, September 12, 2018 to mary.gromosiak@wright.edu or call 937.974.4010.

Wednesday, September 27 (Part I) and October 4 (Part II) 2018 – Fall 2018 Live and Learn Workshop by Gary Barlow

Topic: Two-part Modern Art and some Traditional Art

Part I: Elements of Art. Location: WSU Foundation Building, Room 210. Free parking available. The Building is situated directly behind Wendy’s Restaurant across from the main entrance to campus.

Part II: Visit DAI to identify art previously discussed in Part I. Admission fees waived for this class.

RSVP: Space is limited. Contact Marlene Bireley at mkbphd@aol.com or call the WSURA office at 937.775.2777 to leave a message. Responses due no later than Thursday, September 20, 2018.

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 (tentative date) – WSU Health and Benefits Fair

Time: 10 am – 1 pm

Location: WSU Student Union

Thursday, October 25, 2018 – Dayton Hollywood Racino & Dinner in the 2nd Floor Skybox.

Time: 5:30 pm.

RSVP by October 17, 2018 to mary.gromosiak@wright.edu or call 937.974.4010.

Wednesday, October 31, 2018 – Paul Leonard, former Dayton Mayor and Lt. Governor of Ohio, will lead a discussion on the 2018 Mid-term Elections.

Time: 1 pm. Location: WSURA office, Room 210 Foundation Bldg. directly behind Wendy’s Restaurant across from the main entrance to campus. Free parking available. Feel free to bring a brown-bag lunch and join us on October 31.

Sunday, November 11, 2018 – WSU Theater Matinee “*Crazy for You.*”

Cost: \$15. No. of tickets available: 25.

RSVP no later than Friday, October 19, 2018 to mary.gromosiak@wright.edu or call 937.974.4010. Tickets last year sold out quickly.

Sunday, December 2, 2018 – Dining-in Holiday Brunch hosted by Abe and Sharon Bassett.

Due to space limitations, this event is not open to the full retiree list. Past and current board members are invited as the host can usually accommodate about 20 people. If needed, the back-up

date will be December 9, 2018.

To keep up to date on WSURA activities & events changes and additions, please check the website at wright.edu/wsura or our Facebook account – Wright State University Retirees Association.

Benefits----Carol Stevenson-No Report

Bylaws and Elections—Gail Whitaker

A committee consisting of Joyce Howes, Mary Gromosiak, Larry Prochaska and Gail Whitaker was formed to review the WASURA Bylaws and the Procedures Manual.

In addition—the committee for planning the 2019 Annual Luncheon will consist of Mary Gromosiak, Mary Kenton, Gary Barlow, Joyce Howes and Gail Whitaker. This will be the feature event of the 25th anniversary year since WSURA's founding.

Historical Preservation—Dan Abrahamowicz

No report.

Membership Development – Marlene Bireley

No report.

OCHER—Peggy Bott and Dick Williams

STRS

Dick reported that the latest STRS Ohio *News* contains an interesting article about the financial health of the pension fund. The funded ratio, the ratio of the value of pension fund assets divided by the total pension benefits owed to STRS members, improved to 75.1% for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 compared to 69.6% for the previous year. The time it would take to pay off the system's pension liability under current assumptions also improved by decreasing from 26.6 years to 18.4 years. Most of the improvements in both measures are due to the elimination of the cost-of-living increase with some additional help from an investment return of over 14%. All this good news does not, however, suggest that the cost-of-living adjustment will be restored any time soon. Because the returns to the pension fund's investments have been volatile the STRS Board is concerned about what would happen if there were steep declines in market values like the ones experienced in 2008-09. Segal Consulting, the Board's actuarial consultant, has run thousands of possible outcomes for future returns using both economic variables like the rate of inflation, assumed rate of return (currently 7.45% annually), salary increases for working retirees, and payroll growth as well as demographic variables like mortality and the number of retirements each year. The probability distribution generated by all this data currently suggests that there is a 30% chance that the funded ratio could drop below 50% in the next ten years. Because of this possibility, the STRS Board does not want to consider reinstating the COLA until the funded ratio is higher than its current level, preferably well over 80%.

As reported earlier there will be no increase in health care premiums for 2019 for most retirees. This outcome was due to better claims experience and lower anticipated increases in overall health care costs. Premiums on dental and vision plans will also remain unchanged.

A couple of other interesting results from a STRS survey:

- 75% of active educators are setting aside additional savings for retirement over and above their contributions to the STRS retirement plan.
- More than nine out of 10 retiree households reported at least one source of income in addition to their STRS pension.
- Survey respondents indicated on average, STRS provides 58% of retirees' household income.

Sunshine—Peggy Bott

No report.

Scholarship Committee—Gary Pacernick

Gary reported that the Committee recommended four candidates for scholarships.

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED THAT ADAM AL-MASRI, HELENA JENKINS, MEGHAN JENKINS, AND ROSA TWEED BE OFFERED WSURA SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2018-2019. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Webmaster – Abe Bassett/Robin Suits

Abe thanked the Robin's leadership, as the WSURA Facebook page is beginning to take-off.

In recent postings, we are getting substantial "looks." E.g.:

- Opinion piece on Gym City Jam - 23 visits [in first 2 days]
- Story with Coach Nagy - 32 visits
- OPERS story - 27 visits
- President's evaluation - 30 visits

We now have 46 Facebook members but some non-members also visit the site. Some board members are regular visitors to Facebook.

As we add more posts we will grow our readership.

The members should consider how their messages can be disseminated through Facebook, as well as the older established methods.

What are our considerable methods of communication? They are:

- The Extension
- WSURA website
- List Serve
- Facebook
- direct mail
- emailing
- telephoning

Robin noted that the Guardian moved to a different ISP. <https://wsuguardian.com/>



The Guardian - Wright State University

wsuguardian.com

Recently Wright State announced its partnership with 13 other Ohio public awareness of higher education in the state.

Also, just FYI, just before the meeting Abe and I got a Google Analytics Report on web visitors that was much more extensive than usual. We have been under reporting visitors to the website because previous reports only covered the home page. The July report covers the whole site, with 374 pages that got at least one visitor. Here is a snapshot of the top 10 most popular pages:

Page name	Page Views	Unique Page Views
Home page	315	146
News & Announcements	163	115
Obituaries	89	66
In Memoria	82	66
Reflections-Gordon Skinner's daughter remembers	70	62
Extension feature on Joyce Howes kidney donation	57	57
Board members page	44	36
DDN story: Raiders go to Haiti	35	27
OPERS News	33	25
The Extension archives	46	20

Please email your comments to her at robin.suits@wright.edu.

**Webmaster Report
2018-2019**

	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Unique page views	?	?											
Time on page	?	?											
News stories	22	16											
Video stories	9	11											
eNewsletter sent	0	0											
eNewsletter opened	0	0											
In Memoriam	0	1											
Obituaries	4	0											
Reflections		0											
Events listed for the month	4	5											
Events for year		23											
Facebook posts	4	3											
Facebook photos	36	69											
Facebook members	45	46											
Treasurer's reports	Jun 30	NA											
Board minutes	Jun 6	NA											

June:

Added 4 Facebook posts with links to News stories, including posting an album of 36 photos from the May Annual Luncheon; Posted the Summer 2018 *Extension* newsletter; Updated slideshow at the bottom of the Home page to display photos from the annual luncheon; WSU Web Team added Alumni events to our calendar; Added a page with details about Alumni Association benefits offered to retirees; Added photos to most old news stories

July:

Added 3 Facebook posts with links to News stories; Changed menu to move *The Extension* and Student Scholarships to the top level; Modified names of sections in effort to clarify content areas; added photos to several pages; beefed up Activities & Service page to include lists of past activities. Created alias for the website URL: wright.edu/wsura.

LAISONS

Alumni— Dick Williams

No report.

Athletics Council—Mary Kenton/Larry Prochaska

New baseball and men's soccer coaches have been hired. The men's team is currently in the Dominican Republic doing mission work. Both the Chair and the Vice Chair of Athletics Council have left the University.

International—Ruth Schumacher

No Report.

Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow

No Report.

NEW BUSINESS

A MOTION WAS MADE AND SECONDED TO ESTABLISH TWO RETIREE AWARDS COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WSURA. THERE WOULD BE ONE FACULTY RETIREE AWARD (NAMED THE LEW SHUPE AWARD) AND ONE STAFF RETIREE AWARD (NAMED THE RICH JOHNSON AWARD) PER ACADEMIC YEAR. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 12 YEA AND 1 NAY.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

The NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING: September 5, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Meetings take place in the WSURA offices:
210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence J Prochaska". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "P".

Lawrence J Prochaska, Ph.D.,

Acting Secretary/President Elect