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 Wright State University Retirees Association  
 Minutes of the Board of Directors  
 June 7, 2017

**Present:** Abe Bassett, Frieda Bennett, Marlene Bireley, Peggy Bott, Joyce Howes, Mary Kenton, Gary Pacernick, Sheryl Provens, Larry Prochaska, Donna Schlagheck, Carol Stevenson, Dick Williams, & Gail Whitaker  
**Absent:** Dan Abrahamowicz, Gary Barlow, Mary Gromosiak, Judy Rose, Jim Sayer, & Ruth Schumacher  
**Guest:** Don Pabst

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

BIRELEY MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 3, 2017. SECONDED BY SCHLAGHECK. APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

**President—Mary Kenton**

- Regrets from Dan Abrahamowicz, Mary Gromosiak, Judy Rose, Jim Sayer and Ruth Schumacher. Rose has resigned her long held role as chair of the Elections committee.
- The solicitation of retirees for the annual fund drive will begin next week with \$6100 in matching funds, raised with one \$2,000, one \$1,000, and two \$500 gifts. The remainder contributed by the 100% participation of the members of the WSURA Board of Directors. The pool of matching funds is intended to spur new contributions and to encourage previous donors to increase their contributions.
- A request was made to the Sunshine Committee to coordinate the provision of coffee and snacks for future board meetings. Bott accepted the request, and began by signing volunteers for the next several meetings. Whitaker will note the additional duty in the Procedures Manual. Whitaker will purchase coffee and cup supplies. Howes suggested members bringing their own mugs.
- Following extensive discussion at the previous Executive Committee and today's board meeting, the name of the "Nick Davis Scholarship" will be now be known as the "WSU Retirees Association Nick Davis Scholarship."
- The switching of office keys took place. Prochaska received a key from Bassett, and Schlagheck from Williams. Schlagheck will see that the key records will reflect the changes.

MOTION: BY ACCLIMATION, \$150 WAS DONATED TO THE "STUDENT AFFAIRS FUND" IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF JOANE RISACHER, A LONG TIME CONTRIBUTOR TO THE WSURA ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE, AND A HIGHLY ESTEEMED COLLEAGUE.

**Vice President—Donna Schlagheck**

Schlagheck will continue the practice of the Executive Committee meeting monthly, two weeks following the regular board meeting, starting at 10:30 am in the WSURA office.

Two well-qualified prospects for the student assistant position have appeared and will be interviewed next week.

**Past President—Richard Williams—No report**

**Secretary—Abe Bassett—No report**

**Treasurer—Gail Whitaker**

Treasurer's Report for May 30 was distributed, and has been posted online.

The cost of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Luncheon was subsidized by about \$300 from the dues fund. We were charged for 80 plates.

**Communications—Frieda Bennett**

Because of the late mailing of the Spring issue of The Extension, it was decided there would be no summer issue and the next issue be the Autumn (Fall) issue. The deadline for the editor to receive material will be August 14. The issue will feature biographies of new board members and a list of retiree benefits.

Bassett requested that the Executive Committee discuss the question of rescinding the board's earlier decision to cease the once-a-year mailing to all retirees. Bassett argued that reaching all non-association retirees is a valuable recruiting tool, which can offset the mailing and printing costs.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

**Activities—Mary Gromosiak—Absent—No Report**

**Bylaws and Elections—Judy Rose —Absent—No Report**

**Historical Preservation—Dan Abrahamowicz—Absent—No Report**

Bassett completed an interview with dance faculty member Suzanne Walker (aka Kathy Alexander).

**Sunshine—Peggy Bott**

The following deaths have been reported.

*James Wilson, Sr. April 2, 2017, Associate Director of Admissions*

*Yaun-Chieh (Ramsy) Chow, PhD, May 21, 2017, Associate Professor of Computer Science*

The recent death of Robert Wherle-Einhorn, husband to Juanita Wherle-Einhorn, is noted. She headed the Affirmative Action Office for many years. The couple was last seen at the Annual Luncheon.

**Membership—Marlene Bireley**

A new member is Jean Denney, Disability Services.

**Scholarship Committee—Gary Pacernick**

Candidate applications for the WSURA Nick Davis Scholarships will be available for inspection later this week. The three awardees will be determined by Pacernick with assistance from Kenton and Prochaska. The scholarship coordinator in the department of Financial Aid usually submits the names and resumes of 8 to 10 students who are qualified to receive an award.

**Webmaster – Abe Bassett—No Report**

## LAISIONS

**Alumni— Dick Williams**

There has been no recent meeting of the Alumni Association.

**Athletics—Mary Kenton**

A general discussion regarding the athletic budget following published faculty displeasure with the apparent “increase” of budget. Kenton and Prochaska, both who have served on the Athletic Council, explained why the elimination of the men and women’s swim teams was an obvious choice to reduce expenditures without causing the loss of a Division I status. They explained that the “increase” in actual budget, addresses the long-standing practice of allowing the department to overspend the published budget.

**International—Ruth Schumacher—Absent—No report**

**Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow—Absent—No Report**

**OCHER—Dick Williams and Peggy Bott**

**Bott:** An OPERS representative will attend the September OCHER meeting to discuss health care. According to members at the meeting, “One Exchange,” an entity created by OPERS to facilitate the choosing of medical plans is not part of the ACA. It also functions in the processing of reimbursements from Health Saving Accounts, One Exchange is now in the final year of a three-year contact. OPERS wishes to hear of any problems members have had in their interactions with One Exchange.

OCHER members talked about their respective university and retirees associations. Based on those descriptions, WSURA is a well-established and well-functioning association.

The Cleveland State representative announced that after a three-year debate on whether non-faculty could join, a compromise was reached by allowing professional staff to join.

**Williams:** At the May meeting it was revealed that STRS had lower than expected health care claims during the review period for STRS Ohio’s self-insured plans. This will likely have a positive impact on 2018 premiums for these plans. This means premium increases are expected to be smaller than the consultant’s original projections.

#### **AD HOC COMMITTEE ON BENEFITS REVIEW**

Stevenson presented an extensive committee report on benefits potentially available to retirees. There is extensive work to be done to bring the list of benefits up to date. Committee members have been assigned research areas with an August 2<sup>nd</sup> reporting deadline. The results may be used in the Autumn Extension, the WSURA Membership Brochure, and on the WSURA website. Committee members are Stevenson (Chair), Bireley, Bott, Schlagheck, and Howes.

#### **Election Results:**

Automatic Change of Office via bylaws

President: Donna Schlagheck, from Vice President

Past President: Mary Kenton, from President

President-elect: Joyce Howes, Assistant Dean, College of Science and Mathematics

Treasurer: Sheryl Provens, Senior Accountant, University Foundation

Secretary: Lawrence Prochaska, Professor, Biochemistry Vice Chair of Education Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Elected to the Board of Directors (two year terms)

Abe Bassett, Chair Emeritus, Department of Theatre Arts

Carol Stevenson, University Bursar & Director of Treasury Services

Richard Williams, Professor of Finance and Associate Dean College of Business

Gail Whittaker, Assistant Director, Career Services (one year term)

In keeping with tradition, President Kenton, with smiles and relief, struck the Retiree Gavel with great force upon the table, signifying the changing of the guard and welcoming the new officers and board members.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY BASSETT AND SECONDED BY KENTON.  
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

The NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING: Wednesday August 2, 10:00 a.m.

An EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE is scheduled for Wednesday June 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Meetings take place in the WSURA offices:

210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive

Respectfully submitted, Abe J Bassett, Secretary