

**Wright State University Retirees Association  
Minutes of the Board of Directors  
June 10, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Gary Barlow, Abe Bassett, Frieda Bennett, Marlene Bireley, Peggy Bott, Mary Gromosiak, Mary Kenton, Gary Pacernick, Jim Sayer, Carol Stevenson, Gail Whitaker, Dick Williams, Paul Wolfe.

**Board Members Absent:** Donna Curtin, Elizabeth Harden, Judy Rose, Lew Shupe, and Bob Wagley.

**New Board Members:** Sheryl Provens, Donna Schlagheck, and Ruth Schumacher.

**Re-elected Board Members:** Gary Pacernick and James Sayer

**Guests:** David Barr, Cecile Cary, Barbara Denison, Mike Gromosiak, Charlotte Harris, Leslie Kepler, Helen Listerman, Tom Listerman, and Gerry Petrak

President Williams called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

MOTION: BIRELEY MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2016.  
SECONDED BY WOLFE. MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**President—Dick Williams**

Williams recognized new board members Donna Schlagheck and Sheryl Provens. Ruth Schumacher, the third newly elected board member, was traveling in Brazil.

Williams has secured permission from Robert Sweeney, Secretary to the Board of Trustees, to have a retiree appointed to the President Search Committee. The names of four retired persons are to be submitted to the Trustees who will choose one person to serve on the search committee. Those nominated are Kenton, Petrak, Schlagheck, and Williams.

BIRELEY MOVED THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED. WHITAKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE SLATE OF FOUR WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

ACTION REQUIRED: Not all board members have pledged their donation and are urged to do so to enable the board to reach 100% participation for the third consecutive year.

**Vice President—Mary Kenton**

**No report.**

**Past President—James Sayer**

**No report.**

**Secretary—Abe Bassett**

There has been a spate of recent retiree deaths, including three people on May 23 and 24. Obituaries are short but strong indicators of the interesting lives people live. Obituaries are posted on the WSURA website when they become available.

**Treasurer—Gail Whitaker**

The Treasurer's report for May 31 was distributed and has been has been posted online. Whitaker distributed a list of retirees who have not been responding to communications asking board members to identify those who may have died or are known to be living.

A luncheon expense was erroneously debited to the University Account, but Shannon Norton,

in the Assistant Provost's office has been asked to correct this.

KENTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT. SECONDED BY BIRELEY.  
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

**The Annual Luncheon**—became an unscheduled topic of discussion.

Barlow suggested that the date be set soon for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Retirees Luncheon and that the Berry Room again be reserved. The Board agreed that the same general time frame and location would suffice for next year. The location of the luncheon is well known, and there was an ease of parking.

Barlow also suggested that the Luncheon Committee consider liaisons with the general community, including possible speakers. The Friends of the Library have had a long and successful history of community speakers.

A call for more persons to serve on the Luncheon Committee brought forth Bott and Kenton as volunteers.

ACTION: President Williams added Bott and Kenton to the Luncheon Committee. The Luncheon Committee now consists of Bott, Gromosiak, Kenton, Barlow, Shupe, Wagley, Whitaker and Williams.

**Communications—Marlene Bireley**

Bireley has concluded her work as Communications Chair with the publication last week of *The Extension* [Issue 91—Summer 2016] and surrenders her reign to her successor, newly elected Frieda Bennett. She thanked the members of the board for their cooperation in helping produce *The Extension*, and expresses a wish that the board continue to give the same level of support to Bennett.

Williams expressed the gratitude of the board for Bireley's years of service and the board responded with a hearty round of applause.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

**Activities---Mary Gromosiak**

No new activities are scheduled but members suggested two events: a revisit to the Hollywood Racino (the first visit was rained out) and a re-tour of the new Student Success Center. Whitaker, having participated on an earlier tour, stated how much she enjoyed visiting this remarkable facility.

ACTION: Members are asked send an email suggesting dates they may be free to tour.

Barlow suggested events related to the Presidential Debates including group television viewing, possibly at the University Foundation offices. Schlagheck reported that the US Secret Service would be partially blocking access to the University, but the retiree offices should be accessible.

**Bylaws and Elections—Judy Rose**

Absent. No report.

**Historical Preservation—Lew Shupe**

Absent. No report.

**Membership—Vacant**

Kenton advanced three names as possible Membership chair or committee members: Ruth Schumacher, Ken Davenport, and Marlene Bireley.

**Scholarship Committee—Gary Pacernick**

Pacernick asked Kenton and Wolfe, both former scholarship committee chairs, to meet with him today at noon to examine and recommend the scholarship awardees. Nine students met the minimal qualifications. Three \$1500 scholarships will be awarded this year.

**Sunshine—Peggy Bott**

Recent deaths since the last meeting include

Jewell Gartin, May 1, Human Resources

Evelyn Beaty, May 1, Account Clerk

Ritchie Thomas, May 24, University Librarian

Francis Richard Swann, May 24, Professor of History and Assistant Dean, Liberal Arts

**LIAISONS****Alumni—Robert Wagley**

Absent. No report.

**Athletic Council—Mary Kenton**

There has been no Athletic Council Meeting in the past month. The *Dayton Daily News* reported the financial settlement the University reached with former basketball coach Billy Donlon, He is to receive one year's salary of \$220,000. He had been under a three-year contract and the University paid only one of the two remaining contract years. The new coach Scott Nagy will earn approximately \$500,000 in the coming year, placing him in the range of the top half of Horizon League basketball coaches.

**Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow**

The Friends of the Libraries will soon be issuing a new brochure and a workshop schedule for the new academic year.

Sheila Shellabarger has been named University Librarian.

**International—Bob Wagley**

Absent. No report.

**OCHER—Paul Wolfe**

No Report. OCHER will not meet until next month.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Approval of the revised bylaws.

WOLFE MOVED ACCEPTANCE OF THE REVISED BYLAWS. SECONDED BY PACERNICK. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND THE NON-BOARD RETIREES WHO WERE IN ATTENDANCE.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Speaker's Bureau** - Bassett announced a proposal soon to be brought before the Board of the establishment of a WSU Retirees Association Speaker's Bureau. The concept has received the enthusiastic endorsement of President Hopkins and of potential speakers Sayer and Schlagheck, the former a lecturer on United State presidents and the latter on Presidential Debates, terrorism,

international relations and other political science subjects. Bassett has indicated his interest in speaking on Higher Education.

Barlow proposed that there are many retirees with significant expertise who may like to participate.

Sayer has indicated his willingness to act as chair of this activity and has proposed sending an email to all retirees to inform them of this initiative and to gauge their interest in participation.

Kenton has indicated that this topic will be on the agenda of the special June meeting.

**Food Bank Gift.** Whitaker reported that a \$250 Meijer gift card will be presented to Simone Polk of The Wright State University Friendship Food Pantry at the picnic, with funds allocated from the retirees dues account.

Williams (symbolically) surrendered the President's gavel to Kenton who, before calling for adjournment, indicated she would call a special meeting of the board in July for the purpose in discussing priorities and objectives for the new year.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING MADE BY BIRELEY. SECONDED BY SAYER.  
MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

**The NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING:** Wednesday August 3, 10:00 am.  
**A non-regular Board meeting will be called for Wednesday July 6 at 10:00 am.**

**Meeting to take place in the WSURA offices:**  
210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive.

Respectfully submitted,  
Abe J Bassett, Secretary