

**Wright State University Retirees Association
Minutes of the Board Of Directors
March 3, 2016**

Board Members Present: Gary Barlow, Abe Bassett, Frieda Bennett, Marlene Bireley, Mary Kenton, Gary Pacernick, Judy Rose, Carol Stevenson, Bob Wagley, Gail Whitaker, Dick Williams

Absent: Peggy Bott, Donna Curtin, Mary Gromosiak, Elizabeth Harden, Gerry Petrak, Jim Sayer, Lew Shupe, Paul Wolfe

President Williams called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

MOTION: BARLOW MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2016. SECONDED BY PACERNICK. THE MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

OFFICERS REPORTS

President—Dick Williams

The President made a brief report on retiree contributions to the various University funds and programs, deferring details until the arrival of University Foundation officials Regis Lekan and Amy Jones later in the meeting.

He announced that Gerry Petrak has resigned from the Board effective this spring. A brief discussion was held on the importance of the Membership Committee, which Petrak has headed for several years and the necessity to appoint another competent person. In the meanwhile, the office assistant will be able to handle routine membership tasks.

President Hopkins, immediately following the board meeting of April 6, will host a luncheon for the Association Board.

There was earlier this week a “grand opening” of the new Employee Health & Wellness Center.

An upcoming meeting is to be scheduled with Alumni and University Foundation personnel to discuss methods of increasing retiree membership.

It was noted that our Alumni Association Liaison has not met this year and a replacement must be appointed.

Vice President—Mary Kenton

Kenton expressed regrets on the resignation of Petrak from the board.

MOTION: PACERNICK MOVED THAT THE BOARD RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND PETRAK FOR HER EXCELLENT WORK AND MANY YEARS OF SERVICE. SECONDED BY WAGLEY. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Past President—James Sayer

Absent. No report.

Secretary—Abe Bassett

Bassett thanked Bireley for acting as secretary *pro tem* during his vacation absence in February. Board members were also thanked for their speedy reply to minutes of each board meeting, and promised they would receive a draft of today’s proceedings within 8 hours. All recent Treasurer’s Reports have been posted on the website.

Treasurer—Gail Whitaker

The Treasurer’s report for February 29 was distributed and has been has been posted online. Because of the winter newsletter, expenditures for the month of September were moderately heavy with expenses of \$942, but offset with income of \$745.

Whitaker noted the importance of establishing a relationship with the office of Human Resources to facilitate acquiring current membership data.

The promised increase in the University’s annual support has not been permanently arranged since it

was promised nearly two years ago. Williams is to bring this subject to the attention of Assistant Provost Berberich, the association's official liaison.

Communications—Marlene Bireley

The spring *Extension* will be prepared on March 9, with Bennett assisting Bireley. Adequate materials are on hand for the issue.

A brief discussion ensued on reducing association costs, by transmitting the newsletter by email. Bassett expressed his opinion that the newsletter should continue to exist in its printed form. Several members concurred.

University Foundation Guests

Regis Lekan, Executive Director, Development and Gift Planning, and Amy Jones, Director of Annual Giving were invited to report on retiree donations to University Scholarship funds and Programs. Lekan remarked that nearly 20% of retirees made a donation in 2015, a very impressive ratio. The total retiree gift in 2015 reached \$256,000, an average of \$1281 per donor. \$11,700 was earmarked for the Nick Davis Scholarship Fund, which now stands at \$67,768. Approximately \$3,390 will be available to be awarded as scholarships.

The fall Phonathon resulted in gifts of \$7,500 from 61 donors. The success of the Phonathon came in part from the \$6,300 in matching made available by two donors and members of the board. The members of the board were responsible for \$2,260 of the matching funds. The Board's 100% participation in gift giving was an important argument in increasing overall gifts from the retirees. Jones recommends that the program continue in 2016. Planning will occur later in the semester.

Williams inquired if arrangements can be made with University Foundation to receive via electronic transmission dues transmitted by new members. Lekan and Jones indicated they would inquire.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Activities—Mary Gromosiak

Absent. No report.

Williams noted that the planning for the Second Annual Retiree Luncheon on Friday, May 6, is well underway. An invitation has been mailed to about 400 retirees.

Wagley noted that the invitation did not specifically indicate that spouses were to be invited. Bireley will place emphasis on the welcome of spouses and guests in the forthcoming spring newsletter.

Bylaws and Elections—Judy Rose

A great deal of time was devoted to the revision of the Association's Bylaws. More than a dozen changes were discussed and approved. The revised Bylaws will be distributed to the entire membership and voted on in the annual meeting in June. The revised Bylaws will not be posted online until approved.

Rose announced the names of four retirees who will stand for election in the 2016-2017 year:

Officers

- President-Elect — Donna Schlagheck, Political Science
- Communications Coordinator — Frieda Bennett, Education

Members at large — (Two year terms; three to be elected)

- Gary Pacernick — College of Liberal Arts
- Cheryl Provens — WSU Foundation
- James Sayer — Dean Lake Campus
- Ruth Schumacher — College of Education and Human Services

Historical Preservation—Lew Shupe

There have been no recent interviews because the archival personnel are presently focusing on the review and selection of photographs and the preparation of exhibition boards for the WSURA luncheon.

Gino Posi, one of the primary archivists assigned to the oral interview project will be leaving Wright State University in the spring. He has accepted a position at the University of Cincinnati as a Medical

School Archivist.

Membership—Gerry Petrak

Absent – Report by email.

Petrak distributed a list of new retirees with addresses and telephone numbers. Board members were encouraged to contact anyone on the list to invite him or her to join WSURA. Welcome Packets which were sent to the new retirees included a list of activities. Five retirees have joined WSURA this year.

At the Wright Path to Retirement session in late February, President Williams distributed membership brochures and promoted the organization. Only 7 or 8 people were present at the Faculty Panel Session, but 40 attended the Staff Panel Session. Petrak distributed brochures and Whitaker promoted the organization.

Petrak thanks all volunteers who aided in this membership outreach.

Scholarship Committee—Mary Kenton

MOTION: BASSETT MOVED THAT THREE \$1500.00 SCHOLARSHIPS BE AWARDED IN THE NEXT AWARD CYCLE. SECONDED BY PACERNICK.

Discussion: Nick Davis scholarship funds will provide about \$3300 leaving a shortfall of about \$1200, to be made up from the Dues Account. The motion covers only one award cycle.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Sunshine—Peggy Bott

Absent. Reported by email.

Deaths:

Dr. Edward Classen, February 3, 2016, Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine, 1992 – 2010.

Charlene T. Luciani, January 20, 2016. Coordinator, Regional Cancer Center, School of Medicine

LIAISONS

Alumni—Elizabeth Harden

Absent. No report

Athletic Council—Mary Kenton

Athletics Council met on Friday, February 25 in the Student Union. President Hopkins will meet with Council in March, and the conversation will most likely feature facilities. Bob Grant, the Athletics Director, announced that the department had received a major gift to fund a new hitting barn for baseball, softball and golf. It will contain an entire infield. Bob believes it will be among the finest such facilities in the country. A subcommittee was formed to explore the advantages of building an Olympic style natatorium for use by the swim teams, the university community and local and regional swim club teams. The Gender Equity Committee will make a strong appeal to the President to find funding to build a track as has been called for in the last three Five-Year Plans.

Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow

Glenn Graham, President of the Friends of the Libraries and Barlow are members of the nominating committee. Their task is to select new potential members to serve in one, two, and three year terms and to identify those who will return to the Board for their second terms.

The Annual Luncheon of the Friends of the Libraries is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13.

International—Bob Wagley

No report.

OCHER—Paul Wolfe

Absent. No report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO CONCLUDE THE MEETING MADE BY WAGLEY AND SECONDED BY BARLOW. MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

**The NEXT MEETING: Wednesday April 6, 10:00am,
210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive.**

Respectfully submitted,
Abe J Bassett, Secretary