

**Wright State University Retirees Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors
May 4, 2016**

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

Absent: Frieda Bennett, Elizabeth Harden, and Lew Shupe

President Williams called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

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

OFFICERS REPORTS

President—Dick Williams

Williams reported on contact with Office of Annual Giving (A. Jones) in which he was reminded to urge the board members the importance of 100% participation in the annual fund drive.

In response to the President's request to report on the ongoing negotiations to allow WSURA to receive online credit card payments, Bassett made the following report: A meeting took place last week in the office of the Assistant Provost (Berberich) attended by University Foundation representatives (Lekan, Jones) and members of the Bursar's Office. The discussion dealt with the methodology to be used in receiving such payments. Berberich reported that he would have a solution by the time of the Annual Luncheon on May 6.

The president entertained a suggestion to bring New Business before the board. Without objection from the board, the Agenda was altered to allow for New Business,

New Business

Responding to a suggestion by Whitaker that WSURA make a contribution to the WSU Food Bank, a motion was placed on the floor by Kenton.

MOTION: WSURA SHALL CONTRIBUTE A SUM OF \$250 TO THE WSU FOOD BANK.
MOTION SECONDED BY GROMOSIAK. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vice President—Mary Kenton

No report.

Past President—James Sayer

Sayer noted that in the previous day's news announcement concerning the constitution of the Presidential Search Committee, there had been no mention of the University Retirees, who, collectively, have had a great deal of experience in search and hiring procedures. He suggests steps to be taken to bring retirees on the search committee, which presently consists of every imaginable campus sub-group.

The spring semester enrollment reports show headcount has increased 7/10th of 1% and credit hours have decreased 3/10th of 1%. In other words, changes in these important areas are totally flat.

Having attended a meeting at Sinclair Community College last week, Sayer reports that SCC President Johnson says the college is preparing to offer up to ten Bachelor degree programs.

A general discussion followed with a half-dozen board members who have had direct experience in working to increase transfer fluidity between WSU and SCC. The frequent complaint heard was that the

experience was difficult and the personnel at SCC seemed resistant, and to a certain degree, uninterested. The “pipeline” of students from SCC to WSU seemed never to have materialized.

Secretary—Abe Bassett

Bassett reported on the 2015 CSIS annual giving results which showed that retirees have reached historic highs in the number of donors (200), the total amount of gifts (256,000), and the average gift (\$1280). A news release sent yesterday to the President and selected officials, was also released on the WSURA website and sent to the New Bureau for distribution.

Traffic on the WSURA website seems to be picking up. News and feature items from the Dayton Daily News, the News Bureau and YouTube are now being posted. The Obituary and In Memoriam are popular areas for visitors. Facebook participants are increasing with nearly 40 persons enrolled, but greater activity is anticipated in the near future.

The objective of the website and Facebook is to allow retirees to be more connected with the University, particularly those who live out of state and out of the greater Dayton area.

Board members are urged to participate in Facebook and to offer suggestions for the website.

Treasurer—Gail Whitaker

The Treasurer’s report for April 30 was distributed and has been has been posted online. Whitaker explained the intricacies of budgeting with myriad rules and sometimes contradicting procedures. Whitaker informed the board that she will work with Molnar, the student assistant, to build up office supplies before the end of the budget year. The president concurred with this action.

Communications—Marlene Bireley

The next edition of the newsletter (Summer, No 91) will be composed on May 18th with deadline for submitting material on May 13th.

Bireley distributed a letter from Rosa Tweed, Nick Davis Scholarship awardee, in which she presents her plan to study abroad in Poland in August, but is \$1500 short of her needs. Based on the excellence of her work as an artist and her seriousness as a student, Bireley moved the following motion:

MOTION: AN AWARD OF \$100 SHALL BE GRANTED TO ROSA TWEED IN FURTHERANCE OF HER GOAL TO STUDY IN POLAND THIS SUMMER. SECONDED BY WAGLEY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Individual board members are encouraged to make personal donations to Ms. Tweed.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Activities—Mary Gromosiak

Gromosiak reported on the upcoming Second Annual Retirees Luncheon to be held May 6 at the Nutter Center’s Berry Room beginning at 11:00 am. A complete agenda was presented and each item reviewed and perfected.

A head count of 86 has been reached with 11 tables set for eight person each. Nine door prizes have been secured. Several board members volunteered to come early to set up tables.

Last month, six retirees toured the new Student Success Building. Tim Littell, the director, is very enthusiastic and will conduct more tours as requested. All persons interested should email Gromosiak with a suggested date.

The date for the June faculty/staff/retiree picnic has been set for June 9th with the 10th as a rain date. The WSURA annual board meeting will take place on the 9th or 10th at 10:00 am. Non-board members will be invited to arrive at 9:30 am for an open house.

Bassett commended Gromosiak and the Reunion Committee for their excellent work in organizing this event. However, he urged the committee to take up the issue of bestowing honors for outstanding retirees. In response to Kenton, he agreed that honors would be for service during years of retirement. After a period of careful deliberation, and the experience of bestowing honors the first year, a true sense of purpose and procedure would emerge. A form for members to nominate potential awardees should be prepared and sent in The Extension mailed to all retirees.

MOTION: STEVENSON MOVED AN AD HOC COMMITTEE BE FORMED TO STUDY THE VIABILITY OF A PROCESS FOR RECOGNIZING AND AWARDING HONORS TO RETIREES. SECONDED BY WAGLEY. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE.

ACTION: The president will appoint an ad hoc committee.

Bylaws and Elections—Judy Rose

The ballot for officers and board members for the 2016-2017 year will be counted on May 18 with the assistance of Stevenson and Bott.

Historical Preservation—Lew Shupe

Absent. No Report.

Membership—Vacant

No report.

Scholarship Committee—Gary Pacernick

Pacernick asked Kenton and Wolfe, both former scholarship committee chairs, to serve as committee members. He also has arranged a meeting with the outgoing campus scholarship director to acquaint him with computer intricacies.

Sunshine—Peggy Bott

Bott reported the deaths of 3 persons in April. Their names have been reported in two places on the website: In Memoriam, and Obituaries.

- **Peter William Bacon**, April 26, 2016, Professor, College of Business, Chair, Department of Finance
- **H. Ira Fritz**, April 26, 2016, Professor, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
- **Joseph Young**, April 13, 2016, College of Education & Human Services, 1974 - 1988

LIAISONS

Alumni—Robert Wagley

No report. The Alumni Board of Directors has not met in the past month. They meet three times a year.

Athletic Council—Mary Kenton

Athletics Council met on April 29 for the last time this academic year. Both new basketball coaches, Katrina Merriweather and Scott Nagy, made brief presentations.

Coach Merriweather is filling out her staff. She recruited most of the current players and is looking forward to continuing the winning tradition she helped establish as an assistant for six years under Coach Bradbury.

Scott Nagy comes to Wright State after 21 years at South Dakota. Much of his staff came with him, but he still has one position to fill. He plans to do some recruiting this spring to fill out the team. He is very excited about the opportunities Wright State offers.

Like everyone else on campus, the Athletics Department has been asked to imagine what an 8% cut to the base budget would look like. And like almost everyone else on campus, that seems like a very big ask to the Athletics Director of a chronically underfunded department.

Friends of the Libraries—Gary Barlow

The Friends will offer four different workshops this year, the first of which is significantly different. It will be a workshop on Knitting and Crocheting, with the hope of attracting males in addition to females. The other three workshops will be taught by the Library technical staff and will be announced later.

International—Bob Wagley

No report. International Committee meets twice a year.

OCHER—Paul Wolfe

No report. OCHER will not meet until next month.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

The NEXT MEETING is the ANNUAL MEETING Wednesday June 10, 10:00 am.
210 University Foundation Building, 3070 Presidential Drive.

Respectfully submitted,
Abe J Bassett, Secretary

First Draft 4:00pm 5/4/2012
Second Draft 1:00 pm 5/5/2016