

WSURA Board Meeting

March 2, 2022

Present: Robin Suits, Judi Engle, Kathy Morris, Betty Kangas, Mary Kenton, Mary Gromosiak, Joyce Howes, Dick Williams, Donna Schlagheck, Gary Barlow, Peggy Bott, Dan Abrahamowicz, and Gail Whitaker.

Absent: Jerry Alter

The minutes of the February meeting were approved on the motion of Dan Abrahamowicz and seconded by Gary Barlow.

President Elect Report – no report

Past President Report – no report

Secretary's Report – no report

Treasurer's Report – Sheryl Provens

Two new lifetime members joined in February

Activities – Mary Gromosiak

March 15 is the target date to send out invitations to the Annual Luncheon to be held in The Berry Room on May 6. The menu has been set, doors will open at 11 AM, and tables will be set for 8. The speaker will be Shelly Dickstein, City Manager of Dayton.

Guest Presenter - Mike Natale, CATs

The university plans to eliminate the email addresses for all retirees and alumni because of what they consider excessive insurance costs. The plan may go into effect as soon as June 30, and we will have one year to change our email addresses. A lot of discussion followed, and the board asked Mike to make it known that as a result of this action, we will lose contact with the majority of our members. In addition, we reminded Mike that retirees represent a significant amount of donations to the university and other organizations will lose contact with retirees as well.

Bylaws and Elections – Joyce Howes

A report will be presented at the next executive meeting for proposed changes to the Bylaws along with a draft ballot, for approval at the April board meeting.

Membership – Judi Engle

Three new addresses were received as a result of the last mailing; three new member packets were sent out.

OCHER – Peggy Bott — no report

OCHER – Dick Williams

STRS is still looking at the COLA situation. More information to follow next month.

Scholarships – Mary Kenton

Mary stated that we should begin the process of gathering applications.

Remembrance – Peggy Bott

Don Thomas, former Dean of Graduate Studies passed away.

Webmaster – Robin Suits

She has emailed members some news stories that are of interest to retirees. There were 4,500 hits to our website last month, an unusually high number.

Community and International Affairs – Donna Schlagheck

The peace gala will be held at the Hope Hotel on May 7.

Friends of the Libraries – Gary Barlow

The FOL annual luncheon will be virtual this year. Invitations should be out soon. Gary's Van Gogh workshop will be held on September 14 (with the 21st as second choice). Mary G. will reserve the Foundation Board Room and see about refreshments.

Athletics – Mary Kenton

There was a meeting of the Athletics Council on Feb. 11. UIC is leaving the Horizon League. The council is working on revising their constitution so that employees other than faculty members can serve as officers.

President's Report – Judi Engle

It appears that we may move this summer. We have been offered space on the third floor of the Foundation Building as well as space in University Hall. Judi will see about getting a tour of each place. Scott Rash has confirmed that artwork would be insured if we move to the third floor of the Foundation Building.

Dan, Donna, and Joyce volunteered to serve on a panel for newly retired people. Steven Swedlund, a geriatric doctor from the School of Medicine, agreed to speak on a Zoom presentation on March 9 at 10 AM. Robin will send out a notice to members. Judi has invited Carol Loranger to the annual luncheon.

Our April meeting will be in person. Joyce will bring refreshments.

Communication Coordinator – Mary Kenton

She is working on the next newsletter featuring Gail Whitaker's work with the American Heart Association.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned on the motion of Donna Schlagheck and the second of Joyce Howes.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Whitaker

Next Board Meeting: April 6, 2022

Next Executive Board Meeting: April 27, 2022