

APPROVED December 13, 2016

**UW-Madison Retirement Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of November 8, 2016
UW Credit Union, 3500 University Avenue**

Board Members Present (11):

Darrell Barth	Diane Kravetz	Rob Seltzer
Pat Carol	Cora Marrett	Joel Skornicka
Bob Dye	Gary Mitchell	Jim Stratton
Dorothy Klinefelter	Bill Richner	

Absent (3): John Helgeson, Sarah Potts, Chuck Read

Staff Present: Millard Susman, Ann Wallace

Guests: Mary Czynczak-Lyne

The minutes of the October 11, 2016, meeting were approved as submitted.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as submitted.

President's Report: President Gary Mitchell reported that he met recently with Michael Bernard-Donals, Vice Provost for Faculty and Staff Programs, and he is enthusiastic about being the campus liaison to the UWRA. He stated that Thomas Broman, the new chair of the Retirement Issues Committee, will bring new energy to this committee. Bernard-Donal is willing to attend our board meeting when appropriate. Gary is looking for ideas on how the UWRA can engage with the campus more and assist UW-Madison without threatening our 501(c)(4) status. Mary Czynczak-Lyne mentioned marshaling at commencement and convocation as a possible contribution. The Office of the Secretary of the Faculty is setting up a meeting of the Retirement Issues Committee (now scheduled for January 12, 2017). Mary also mentioned Gwen Drury of Campus and Visitor Relations under the Vice Chancellor for University Relations (housed at Union South). Gwen is involved with the Speakers Bureau and inquired about having UWRA members review her presentation on the Wisconsin Idea. Bob Dye suggested that she might do a program for UWRA, possibly through the Connections Committee.

Gary, Mary, and Cora Marrett recently attended an L&S reception for emeriti faculty and staff. The reception was attended mostly by faculty, and they inquired about how the invitations and advertising were handled. The Provost's letter to Deans and Directors about volunteering by retirees was recently sent out. Bob Dye commented that Deans' Offices are overloaded due to budget and staffing shortages.

The possibility of an ad hoc committee on engaging university staff was discussed, along with incentives to join UWRA. The Membership Committee has tried various strategies. Cost is less of a barrier than culture. There was discussion of ideas and activities to get staff involved, which need to focus on and identify benefits of involvement in UWRA.

Executive Director's Report: Executive Director Ann Wallace reported that the UWRA office has been moved around the corner to room 7205A, which is harder to find. It is a nicer office in a number of ways, and she had good help moving from staff members in the Division of Continuing Studies. The Travel Committee has no member from the UWRA Board. Knowledge of places in Wisconsin that would be appropriate for trips would be helpful for a new member to have. The committee meets at Peggy Daluge's house about 2 times per year, and members are responsible for organizing trips. There is one issue that has come up in the Travel Committee, a proposal that trip organizers get a free trip rather than the freebie becoming part of the trip income. At the Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants meeting, Ann learned that two teams are evaluating RFP responses on the health insurance program that will be reviewed at the November 30th Group Insurance Board meeting and voted on at the December meeting. Millard Susman reported that he has received Notes from the ACE (Association of Career Employees) Annual Meeting that cover a discussion of the RFP process for state health care coverage. He has permission to distribute the notes, and it was agreed that they will be sent out to UWRA members soon.

Committee Reports:

The Volunteering Committee report was attached to the agenda email. Diane Kravetz explained that the committee wishes to make changes in the operating procedures. **The new language will read, "Volunteering: This committee encourages volunteering among members in the community and on campus. It also provides oversight of the School Partnerships Program, which encourages financial support through the Foundation for Madison's Public Schools." Rob Seltzer moved approval; Darrell Barth seconded; approved unanimously.**

Old Business:

Providing refreshments for meetings: Ann Wallace alerted the board that CFMR is planning a March seminar on CCRC's (Continuing Care Retirement

Communities) that may run 3 to 4 hours and may involve provision of refreshments, a possible slippery slope. A long discussion followed. The seminar will likely be at the Lussier Family Heritage Center, which has a rental fee also. The committee has a \$500 annual budget for handouts, which has been very lightly used. This is a priority, highly requested program that repeats a similar very well attended seminar 5 years ago, thus the larger venue. The board expressed general support for an exception to cover reasonable expenses for a long program that has a large attendance. However, the committee is encouraged to keep expenses reasonable. Millard Susman felt he had enough guidance to take back to the committee as it finalizes its seminar proposal.

New Business:

1. Search Committee for *Sifter* editor: The Communications Committee handled the search last time and will take the lead this time under the leadership of chair Chere Gibson. Volunteers and suggestions are welcome.
2. Search Committee for Executive Director: This search committee will be primarily a subcommittee of the board. A newer retiree might be the best candidate. A binder of procedures is available to supplement face-to-face training. Ann will review and expand on the position description that is in our policies and procedures, and it will be sent out to the board with a request for volunteers. Concerns were expressed that it will be very difficult to fill Ann's shoes.

Next meeting: December 13, 2016, at 9:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Richner
Secretary