

Southern Oregon University Retirees Association
Council Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2013
Continuing Education Center, SOU

1. Call to order

Co-President Dave Hoffman called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

Others in attendance were co-president Ralph Fidler, additional council members Bonnie Rott, Barbara Irvin, Wayne Schumacher, Ed Hungerford, Lorraine Winger, Herman Schmeling, Jim Olsen, Lavelle Castle and Tom Pyle, former council president Bev De La Zerda and SOU staff members Sally Klein, Jeanne Stallman and Anya Neher.

2. Introductions

Sally introduced Anya, who will replace Sally as staff liaison to the association on Nov. 4. Sally said she retired Oct. 18, but will stay on until Nov. 1 and then join the retirees association.

3. Announcements

Dave said he must cut down on his work as council co-president due to health concerns. He said it was nothing urgent, but did necessitate devoting less time to council duties. Ralph agreed to take on a larger load, including the chairing of council meetings.

3. Minutes of Sept. 13, 2013, council meeting

Meeting had been postponed from Sept. 11 because of so many members being unavailable. Numbers were still small on 13th, as only Hoffman, Fidler, Winger, Hungerford and Klein were able to attend. Informal discussion regarding future of organization took place with decision made to share ideas at next council meeting. Notes on the meeting, written by Fidler and Hoffman, have been distributed to council members.

4. Financial Report

Jeanne handed out financial activities report showing a balance of \$3,153.58 through fiscal year 2012 and \$4,792 through Sept. 30, 2013. It also showed a \$26,203.52 scholarship fund value through June 30, 2013. Bev asked that a more detailed activity report be given the treasurer. Jeanne indicated that could be done and suggested it happen on a quarterly basis.

5. Retirees Luncheons

Sally reported 44 reservations to date for Nov. 1 luncheon. Lorraine volunteered to call members to see if more might be interested in attending. Dave asked that Sally send invitations to all retirees, not just association members. Sally said lunch would cost \$14 or \$15, with increase in cost result of our request for better food. There was some discussion about luncheon income not meeting expenses. One reason given was number of people (i.e., speakers, administrators) not being asked to pay for meals. Dave said he feels membership prefers speakers -- with SOU ties or not -- who have "exciting" stories to tell, citing positive reactions to John Rachor's tales of serving on search and rescue missions. He said next speaker, Dennis Powers, should be very entertaining and distributed "The Retiree's Life...", prepared by Powers.

Sally handed out a list of potential luncheon programs and speakers gathered over past two years. Also suggested were Claude Curran, Kevin Talbert (gardening) and Barbara Scott (animal control), Vince Smith (SOU Houses program), Tim Robitz (new residence hall and dining facility). Wayne said he had talked with Robitz about the possibility of a tour of the new facilities. A combination of lunch and tour of new hall was suggested. Wayne, Ralph, Bonnie and Anya volunteered to meet with Robitz to discuss the idea. Sally said winter luncheon will be Feb. 28, 2014. University president Cullinan is tentatively scheduled to speak at May 16 spring luncheon. Ralph and Anya will formally invite her.

6. Association Membership

Sally handed out a list of the 88 paid members. She also distributed a list of all retirees from the college. The lists included street addresses, phone numbers and email addresses if available. A list of council officers (with some email addresses) was included in the meeting agenda. Dave asked that the missing addresses be given to Sally so that whole board could be communicated with via email.

7. ID Cards

Sally reminded council that emeritus faculty have SOU ID cards and that retired staff may get SOU ID cards once they have paid association dues. No further discussion was held.

8. Proposed Bylaws Change

Dave suggested changing required number of council meetings from five to three per year. He said internet (email) makes it possible for group to make some decisions without so many "live" meetings. Also, he said, having a meeting prior to each luncheon was probably sufficient. Bev said that requirement is not in association bylaws, but is found in its guidelines and would, therefore, not require a vote of the membership should council wish to make any changes. She also suggested that having a meeting after new council members are elected would be wise in order to help with transition from old leadership group to new one.

Wayne moved that the matter be tabled until next council meeting. Lorraine seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Future of Retirees Association

Dave distributed two handouts he had prepared, one titled "Concerns about how (or if) we are to keep our organization alive" and the other "Something to think about: Seminars/Games/Travel/etc." He said a main concern of his was serving the interests of newly retired staff and faculty as the organization seemed to be largely made up of members who retired several years ago. Discussion followed, with exploration of working with OLLI being suggested. Due to the lateness of the hour as well as the need for time to think about options and have an in-depth discussion of the matter, the board decided to put it off until the Jan. 22, 2014, meeting of the council.

10, Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:30 p.m.