

Southern Oregon University Retirees Association
Council Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2011 (Unscheduled Meeting)

President Sue Corp began the meeting at 3:03 pm in Room B of the Campbell Center. Present were Sue Corp, Lodi Belford, Bruce Moats, Don Reynolds, Dave Hoffman, Sally Klein, Jerry Insley, Jim Dean, Ron Nitsos, Dan Bulkley, Ernie Ettlich, Wayne Schumacher.

Sue thanked everyone for attending this special meeting on such short notice.

Last Meeting's Minutes

The minutes of the February 16, 2011 meeting were approved without correction.

Old Business

SOU Privileges to Retirees (Review of Sister Institutions)

Sue handed out materials reflecting comparative retiree privileges and membership costs from nine institutions of higher education. (Special thanks for an excellent job of research to those involved!) Sue also distributed a draft membership application form for discussion. Jerry Insley had unearthed a copy of a January 10, 2006, summary of discussions among Ron Bolstad, Ernie Ettlich, and Neil Kunze relating significant components of the newly combined faculty-staff retiree's association. A copy of that document is attached. Sally reported that she had met with HR, but has had no response to date. After discussion about specific privileges to possibly be considered at SOU (parking, email, library, discounts, ID cards, computer use for research, athletic events, newsletter, admission to university events, Schneider Museum, music events for music faculty, luncheons, among others), it was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to have a sub-committee of the Council draft a proposal summarizing the privileges to be available to SOU retirees (with comparator information from other institutions) to be discussed by the Council for eventual presentation to the President and Provost. Jerry Insley, David Hoffman, and Bruce Moats agreed to serve on this sub-committee.

Retiree's Association Funding Issues (Membership Dues)

Sue summarized membership responses gathered during the last two luncheons indicating that most understood the reasons for and were in favor of an annual membership fee. Jim moved and Lodi seconded a motion to assess a \$20 annual membership fee beginning with the 2011-2012 year. Passed unanimously. It was determined the 'year' would be July 1 through June 30. Precisely what the membership fee will provide is yet to be finalized, but considerations included the cost of the newsletter to be sent to all members, payment for luncheon guests and/or speakers, perhaps a simple ID card, and unknown miscellaneous expenses. It was agreed that specific information regarding the membership fee and its uses would need to be determined before the fee is officially announced and collections received.

The membership registration/sign-up form was discussed with a few minor suggestions to enhance simplicity and clarity. Sally agreed to incorporate the suggestions into an updated draft.

Nominating Committee - Bruce, Jim

Bruce announced that he had identified two staff candidates who had agreed to serve, and Jim relayed the same for faculty. This leaves one position yet to fill which could be either a faculty or staff candidate. Thank you Bruce and Jim for your efforts.

Transportation Issues for Spring Meeting

It was reported that Jeanne is writing up a brief article for the next newsletter about the May Association's luncheon at the Higher Education Center in Medford. Her article will include a small map and information about parking and transportation. President Cullinan will be the speaker. There is still a need for a minibus driver to transport from campus to Medford and return, as well as shuttle driver to and from the parking structure in Medford.

New Business

Election of Treasurer

Based on the vote for implementation of an Association membership fee, the need for an Association Treasurer has arisen. With our collective breaths being held, Lodi was asked if she would agree to assume this role. Lodi agreed and was enthusiastically welcomed as the Association's first Treasurer.

Any Other Business?

Sue suggested that the April 13 scheduled meeting be cancelled since much of the business had transpired at today's special meeting, and more time would be needed by the 'privileges' sub-committee to do their work. The next meeting will be May 11, which will come before the May luncheon on the 20th.

David suggested a program for consideration next year be a speaker on retirement issues, PERS updates. The Council agreed this would be relevant and interesting to the membership.

A question arose as to when, exactly, next year's officers would be elected. June? July? August? Sue said she would check with Bev to clarify this.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:07pm

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Schumacher