

Southern Oregon University Retirees Association  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2010

President Bev De La Zerda began the meeting at 3:03 pm in Room B of the Campbell Center. Present were Bev De La Zerda, Thom Jones, Lodi Belford, Dan Bulkley, Wayne Schumacher, Ernie Ettlich, Ron Nitsos, Sue Corp, Don Reynolds, Bruce Moats, and Sally Klein.

**Last Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes for February 17 were approved with two corrections: Don's last name was corrected to "Reynolds" (sorry Don!), and the reference to our speakers at the last luncheon is amended to relate that Bob Hilton and Doug Gentry both spoke to their OLLI teaching experiences, deleting the reference that "Doug will speak on 'The Economy'."

**Old Business**

Council Election Committee Report (Ernie Ettlich, Bruce Moats, Dan Bulkley, Wayne Schumacher, Chair) Wayne reported on the progress of the Nominating Committee. To recap, there will be seven vacancies on the Council at the end of this year. The charge to the committee was to fill all vacancies with 'at least' three positions to be occupied by faculty. To date, thanks to the efforts of the committee, and especially Ernie, we have five confirmed nominees. Faculty: Jim Dean, Jerry Insley, Gene Stringer, and David Hoffman. Staff: Don Graber. Additionally, Lodi Belford has agreed to be a 'candidate in reserve' if the committee is not able to identify enough additional staff nominees. Names of potential staff to consider included Pat Wolfe (presently out of the country), Sib Farrell, Erlene Martin (although discussion revealed she may not be interested), Larry Nollenberger, Frank Seely (who, Ernie says, is not interested), Bob Davidson, Tony Boom. The committee will continue its work, with the intention of presenting a full slate of nominees at the next Council meeting.

**Retiree Membership Discussion (continued from last meeting)**

Bev presented a draft of potential guidelines for discussion. Individuals under consideration include Geoff Ridden and Jim Olsen. (Tom Peterson's petition was voted and approved last meeting). Geoff had submitted a petition which was passed among the Council. Bev reported that Jeanne Stallman had a concern about financial considerations should a large number of non-SOU retirees wish to join the Association. Several considerations were discussed including an annual payment (\$100?) or variations on mandatory contributions to the scholarship fund. Ernie suggested holding off on a specific guideline pronouncement at this time to see if there really was a sizeable problem, and if so, suggested dealing with it when the time comes. General agreement with Ernie's perspective prevailed.

Another concern about including non-SOU retirees in the Association involved required affiliation with a legitimate college or university. In response to this, it was decided the reference to "College or University" in Bev's draft was sufficient. Suggested changes to Bev's draft included: 1. Acknowledging in the guideline draft that the bylaws do provide latitude for expanding the Association's membership; 2. The Council "may" invite the applicant for an interview, rather than requiring so. It was also decided that Jim Olsen's possible upcoming petition would follow the new guidelines which will serve for staff as well as faculty.

A vote was conducted regarding Geoff Ridden's petition, and was approved.

**Helping The University, update**

Sally talked to Jeanne to get input about how the Association could be of greater assistance to the University, and reported that Jeanne had talked to the Provost. However, Jeanne was not able to attend today's meeting and so this topic discussion has been scheduled for next meeting.

**Significant Dates for the Rest of the Year**

Next Council Meetings: May 20 and Aug 18

Newsletter Deadlines: Apr 14 (articles to editor); Apr 21 (newsletter to Publicity Center); Apr 28 (newsletter in the mail).

Luncheon reservations to Sally: no later than May 17

Luncheon dates for next year: Fall-October 22; Winter-March 4

## New Business

1. Bev reported that Mary Ann Alston expressed concern at the luncheon about the lack of a current University telephone directory. Bev displayed a printout of the current directory version from the University's website which, unfortunately, has neither phone numbers nor addresses. The Council generally agreed that this is an area needing attention, perhaps by the Association.

2. Bev brought up the Siskiyou Blvd. crosswalk light situation indicating that the flashing lights seem to be used more recently. The one light mechanism that had been broken is now working again. Hopefully, student use of the crosswalk flashing lights is improving, in spite of the disrespect some high school students have shown in their need to push the buttons no matter which way they are heading.

3. Thom's telephone tree idea was briefly discussed as a topic to pursue in the future. If established, this idea could improve contact and communication among the Association members, and also increase attendance at the luncheons.

Thom asked if there had been any feedback concerning the last luncheon, reporting that he had heard positive comments about the program (although perhaps too long) and negative comments about the food. He also wondered if more information on the nametags worn at the luncheon would be helpful. Further, he shared information about the "Ashland At Home" program, which is receiving an enthusiastic response in the community.

Bev reported that the Foundation was changing its policy about mailing scholarship donation acknowledgements. Henceforth, they will send taxable donation letters for contributions over \$20 only, rather than all contributions.

Ron inquired about a new logo agenda for the University, and, yes, evidently, a new logo is coming soon to a University near you.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 pm

Next meeting: 3pm, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wayne Schumacher