

RETIREE ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES
April 17, 2018
9:30 a.m., Vista Conference Room, MAC Hall

Attendance: President Dan Spielmann, Pat Przybelski, Judi Pietsch, Kathy Pletcher, Frank Madzarevic, Chris Sampson, Curt Heuer, Carol Emmons
Excused absence: David Kieper
Guests: Roger Vanderperren, Jacob Depas

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Jan. 19 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Pat, second by Curt, minutes were accepted without change.

Monthly update from University liaison

Jacob Depas, development officer with University Advancement, covered numerous topics in his overview of recent UW-Green Bay news:

- Rewrite of institutional mission statement – Under way. In related discussion, it was noted by the Retiree Board that the graduation requirement of needing an interdisciplinary major or minor is being phased out.
- Clarification on seeking Business accreditation – Jacob used the term “hitting the pause button” with the retirement of the business dean and a lengthy search process. The door is not permanently closed on accreditation, he said.
- Project Coastal – It’s an ambitious timetable (July 1 deadline) for integrating the former Marinette, Manitowoc and Sheboygan two-year colleges into UW-Green Bay. Much work, on many fronts. Jacob talked about the challenge of his work in bringing the several foundations together.
- Phoenix Innovation Park and new STEM building – Significant progress. Brown County will construct building; state (UWGB) will lease the land. Approximately \$25 million project, with combination of state, county and private fundraising. Need to raise another \$1 million to pass key hurdle so county can “put shovel to dirt.”
- Weidner Center – Very encouraging results with new director’s efforts to increase the number of campus and community bookings.
- Phoenix Athletics – In negotiation with PMI regarding Resch Center contract for men’s basketball. February experience with one game at Kress went well.
- Academic programs -- Mechanical Engineering program is gearing up to start; will eventually be housed at proposed STEM building. A new 1-2-1 “all in one” Nursing program has received System permission to proceed with planning.

Save the dates

Pat laid out the recurring events already scheduled for 2018:

May 15, Tuesday – Arboretum nature walk

Aug. 16, Thursday – Retiree Golf Outing and dinner, scholarship fundraiser

Sept. 27, Thursday – Annual Banquet

Shorewood Golf Course beautification

Pat said the management of Shorewood Golf Course is again willing to spring for several hundred dollars worth of annuals if the Retiree Association will once again provide volunteers to plant the flowers near various tees, rest areas, etc. on the course. Pat invites members to contact her if they're interested.

Social events: February basketball, April music concert

Chris shared an update on the success of the Feb. 16 "Krash the Kress" alumni reception/tailgate for the men's basketball game at the Kress. He said nearly two dozen ticket/dinner packages were ordered through the Retiree group, with some retirees bringing family and friends. Well-attended event all around, with the Kress mostly full with a crowd of 3,000-plus. If they continue to secure sponsorships, Alumni and Athletics will likely do it again, Chris said, and there's no reason the Retirees wouldn't do it again, either. Chris then shared an update on the major choral concert (Verdi's 'Requiem') that was postponed by the blizzard in mid-April. There was great interest, and a total of 35 tickets were reserved for the Retiree Association block of discount seats. As of today's meeting, the makeup date is unknown, but Chris said he will email the 35 to see if they would want to reserve seats again.

Social events, part II: Discussion of ticket procedures

Discussion followed as to whether we can develop a better model for these group outings – one that doesn't involve the coordinator voluntarily fronting the cash, buying the group tickets and collecting individual payments and distributing tickets the night of the event. (If the box office won't do refunds or credits when there are no-shows, the Retiree coordinator is potentially left holding the bag.) Chris said it's not a huge concern of his now, and it's easy for him, but agreed with others who said we should develop a better model for coordinating events and ordering in advance to secure the group rate, while avoiding the risk of having to "eat tickets."

Misc. business: Retiree passings, new brochures, publicity, Wiersma gift

- A) Pat noted there had been at least four UWGB retirees who passed away since our last meeting in January: Prof. and former Vice Chancellor David Jowett and staff members Jean Wiegand of Financial Aid, Clarence Lacenski of Maintenance and Shirley Gustafson.
- B) Chris said the 500 new Retiree Association brochures were delivered in late February, and the main supply is housed with Morgan Hansen in Advancement, but several hundred also went to the Human Resources Office, which gives them to new retirees at "exit interview" time. He'll bring some to next meeting.
- C) There was discussion of using the Annual Meeting to invite more involvement in the Retiree Association, attract active membership, and in general increase the turnout for Association events. Post cards and phone calls were mentioned. This will be a future topic for the Board.
- D) The next meeting of the Retiree Board was set for Tuesday, May 15, at 9:30 a.m., this time at Lambeau Cottage along the campus bayshore.

Respectfully Submitted
Chris Sampson, recording secretary