**RETIREE ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES**

**Tuesday, June 11, 2024**

**9:30 a.m., MAC Hall Vista Room**

**Attendance:**  President Dan Spielmann, Vice President Pat Przybelski, Treasurer Frank Madzarevic, Recording Secretary Chris Sampson, directors Carol Emmons, Curt Heuer, Chris Style, John Stoll and Ken Fleurant

**Guests**: Brian Rammer of Alumni Relations, Heidi Jahnke of Lifelong Learning

**Approval of minutes**

Sampson/Heuer moved and seconded to approve minutes of the previous month’s meeting, with one minor deletion to reflect Barbara McLure-Lukens’ retirement from the board. Motion passed. Thanks were extended to Przybelski for handling the minutes in Chris’s absence.

**Introduction of prospective new Retiree board member**

Dan extended a welcome to retired Prof. John Stoll, who has indicated his interest in joining the board of directors. John sat in on this meeting in anticipation of his likely confirmation during the annual membership meeting in July.

**Presentation on UWGB’s Lifelong Learning Institute**
Heidi Jahnke, a program specialist with Lifelong Learning, briefed members about her division’s various programs as part of a larger exploration of whether the Retirees might pursue future collaboration. She began by noting that Lifelong Learning has two broad areas of focus: continuing education and workforce development. A natural overlap with the Retiree Association, it was agreed, is the Lifelong Learning Institute (formerly Learning in Retirement). UW-Green Bay’s program is among the oldest and largest in the UW System and, arguably, the strongest in the state. Current membership is about 675, and continues to rebound after COVID. Members pay an annual $150 membership fee to enroll in multiple courses (choosing from nearly 200 different topics). Heidi touched briefly on the ability of the Retirees Association to both recruit new members and also identify additional retiree speakers who have not yet taught a course for the program. (Many already have.) Discussion also involved the fact that LLI runs bus trips – to Old World Wisconsin and Peninsula Players, to name just a couple – and perhaps this might be of particular interest to Retiree Association members and worth marketing to our list. It was agreed that these topics merit future discussion.

**Recap of spring programs at Arboretum and Richter Museum *(and p.s. on film series)***Dan and Pat said the annual Arboretum nature walk and the Retiree session at the Richter Museum of Natural History went well, with the usual turnout for the late April arboretum outing and a similar 15 or so participants for the Richter behind-the-scenes tour on May 30. Dan said staff member Andrew LaPlant of the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity did a nice job with the walk although the late spring conditions limited the wildflower and plant viewing. Pat noted there were positive, appreciative comments for the Richter event, as well. Dan said it might be worth investigating any interest in a fall natural areas walk, maybe someplace like the University’s relatively new Wequiock Creek holdings.

*(PS regarding programming – With regard to potential Retiree Association programming in cooperation with other parts of campus, it was noted that the annual Green Bay Film Society series might offer its own opportunities. Current and retired faculty members have shared their expertise and served as hosts/presenters for numerous screenings over the years. It was agreed our programming group should investigate the options for promoting a “retiree night at the Film Society” in the coming year to share with our members.)*

**Update on Retiree Scholarship Update, Awards**

It was announced that the Retiree Association Scholarship Fund is yielding two awards this cycle, with UWGB students James Harris and Joshua Dornfeldt receiving $1,650 each. That’s positive news reflecting growth and new contributions to the fund, which stands at $105,426 in total assets at last count. The disbursement of $3,300 in 2024 compares with $2,500 total for the two scholarships last year. With gradual but continued growth over its 15-year history, the Retiree Scholarship program has given out more than $20,000 since its inception.

**Retiree cookout**Everything is all set for the July 18th program on campus. At this date, the message is, “talk it up, bring your friends.”

**Thank you to Curt and Carol**

Carol Emmons and Curt Heuer, longtime members of the board of directors, have each decided to step away after their terms end this summer. Dan expressed appreciation for their involvement and service to the University and to the Retirees group, sentiments seconded by others around the table.

**Adjournment**

Appropriately, outgoing board members Curt and Carol moved and seconded a motion to adjourn. All ayes, at approximately 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sampson, Recording secretary.