**RETIREE ASSOCIATION BOARD MINUTES**

**Tuesday, Sept. 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 Kevin Fermanich, Craig Lockard, Jeanellyn Schwarzenbach, Christine Style

**Guests**: Brian Rammer of Alumni Relations

**Approval of minutes**

Style/Przybelski moved and seconded to approve minutes of the previous month’s meeting, with a correction of the date of the meeting. All ayes. Motion passed.

**Introduction of new board members**

Dan extended a welcome to two new members of the Retiree board attending their first meeting as directors: Kevin Fermanich and Jeanellyn Schwarzenbach.

**Update on University news**  
Rammer shared news from UW-Green Bay after the first week of fall semester. Total enrollment tops 10,000. The Condon Hall residence facility is now open, with a successful dedication ceremony and 19 percent of all students living on campus. UWGB is recording more “transfers in” than “transfers out.” The Rising Phoenix program has 500 high schoolers participating and enjoying dual enrollment at UWGB. Demand for noncredit lifelong learning offerings remains strong. The Evanescent art installation of giant bubbles was a hit in drawing onlookers outside the Weidner Center. Plans continue to progress for replacement of the eight-story David A. Cofrin Library, with completion of the new learning center and demolition of the old now targeted for 2027.

**Recap of Retiree summer picnic at U Union**Dan noted that 43 retirees and guests attended the July 18th event. The social aspect and the dinner program presentation on lifelong learning went well, but there were a few problems with meal and drink service. (Only one Chartwells staff member available, a skimpy spread of buffet food and slow refreshment service were noted.) When called to their attention, Chartwells provided a 25 percent reduction in its charges to the Retiree Association as a result.

**Ideas for possible Retiree Association events and programming for 2024-25**

Dan listed some suggestions from retirees including Jane Rank who had earlier volunteered a few ideas:  
-- Some sort of program involving Archives (especially, perhaps, the Oral History Project)  
-- Can the Association push for a concert or recital at the Weidner that would feature the relatively seldom-heard Wood Family Organ?

-- Tour of Lawton Gallery, possible emphasis on First Nations art  
-- Tour of Herbarium

Also mentioned were some sort of event tied to campus designation as a lead partner in the National Estuary program (could boat outings on the bay be part of this?). Discussion followed as to whether Theatre productions – sometimes a focus of Retiree outings in years past – would be options this winter now that the academic major in Theatre has been de-emphasized. (Yes, but we need to check the schedule, which has fewer dates.) A retiree afternoon (or evening) at a Phoenix basketball game has typically been among our annual events, and has drawn interest.

The idea of collaborating with Lifelong Learning on a special program, talk or reception remains up for discussion.

**Adjournment:** Craig moved and Christine seconded, and there were all ayes for adjournment at about 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Sampson, Recording secretary.