MINUTES OF THE

RETIREE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL COOKOUT/PICNIC & MEETING

July 18, 2024, University Union, Phoenix Rooms

4:30 social hour; 5:30 dinner

**Report by the Retiree Association President**

After an enjoyable social hour with friends and colleagues, President Dan Spielmann welcomed 43 attendees to the annual indoor picnic dinner. He shared the following information as part of his summary of the Association’s 2023-24 academic year.

**Events**

* An October STEM Center tour was led by Dean John Katers and attended by about 15 retirees.
* A February 24 pre-game reception at the Kress Center for a women’s basketball game drew 25 retirees and guests, along with Chancellor Alexander and his wife.
* An April 26 Arboretum Walk was led by Andrew LaPlant of the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity. The walk drew 13 nature lovers.
* A tour of the Richter Museum of Natural History was led by Curator Dan Meinhart on May 30. About 13 retirees attended and were surprised at what they learned about what the Museum has stored in the area.

Dan asked for ideas from the retirees for any activities they would like to have in the future. He also encouraged those who are not yet members on our retiree listserv to contact us.

**In Memorium Names**

Dan then asked for a moment of silence to remember our colleagues and friends who have passed away since our last July 2023 dinner: Dave Buss, Per Johnson, Connie Strom, David “Buggs” Bugni, Donald Gandre, Donald Harden, Leander Schwartz and Walter Herrscher.

**Scholarship Endowment Fund**

Two UWGB student recipients of Retiree Association Scholarships for the 2023-24 academic year received a total of $2500: Skylla Szczerbak is a senior in Psychology and Erik Willims is a Junior in Human Biology. As of May 31, 2024, we have $111,125 in the Retiree Scholarship Endowment Fund. We received $10,750 in Scholarship donations from June 2023 to February 2024, with a generous gift of $10,000 received in November 2023 from Helen and Lee Schwartz.

Before partaking in our picnic dinner, Dr. Dawn Crim, Vice Chancellor for Inclusivity and Community Engagement, spoke to the group about the university’s ability to constantly grow as a welcoming institution and engage in meaningful ways with all the communities we serve.

After dinner, Dan next introduced our key speaker for the evening Jessica Lambrecht, executive officer of the division for Continuing Education and Community Engagement. Jessica discussed how the university is now offering career coaching and other services to the broader community of professionals in Northeast Wisconsin with a goal of helping individuals discover their strengths and explore their career interests in the marketplace.

**Election of Board of Directors members**

* The next order of business was the election to the Board of Directors. Five members have 2-year terms expiring – Carol Emmons, Ken Fleurant, Frank Madzarevic, Kathy Pletcher and Curt Heuer. Carol and Curt will be stepping down from the Board. Dan thanked them for their work over the past 6 years. Members Ken, Frank, and Kathy have agreed to continue on the Board for another 2-year term 2024-26.
* Three nominees have accepted nominations to the Board for a 2-year term 2024-26: Kevin Fermanich, John Stoll, and Jeanellyn Schwarzenbach. Dan asked for other nominations from the floor. Having none, it was moved and seconded to approve the 6 members to the Board for the two-year term 2024-2026.
* Continuing members for one more year on the Board for 2024-25 are Craig Lockard, Pat Przybelski, Dan Spielmann, Chris Sampson and Chris Style.

Dan thanked all Board members. He also acknowledged and thanked Brian Rammer, liaison from the Advancement Office, for all his help during the year.

The evening festivities ended at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Przybelski