

APPROVED January 13, 2015

**UW-Madison Retirement Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of October 14, 2014  
UW Credit Union, 3500 University Avenue, Community Room**

Board Members Present (12):

Darrell Barth	Barbara Erlenborn	Debbie Lauder
Dale Burke	John Helgeson	Jan Richardson
Phil Certain	Diane Kravetz	Bill Richner
Rick Daluge	Cherie Krenke	Hal Winsborough

Absent (2): Bob Dye, Al Liegel

Staff Present: Millard Susman, Ann Wallace

**Automatic consent business:**

**Approval of minutes of the September 9, 2014, meeting were approved with the two following corrections. First, the Treasurer’s report covered both July and August rather than just July. Second, under old business, the revised UWRA document on emeritus status is an informational document rather than a policy. “Policy” was replaced in the second to last sentence with “informational document.”**

Reports:

Treasurer’s Report—**A motion to file the September report was approved.**

President’s Report—President Phil Certain thanked the panel that presented on “If I knew then what I know now” at the Benefits Fair. The panel included Rick Daluge, Deb Lauder, and Phil Certain, with Dale Burke moderating.

Executive Director’s Report—Executive Director Ann Wallace also thanked the panel, as well as those who worked at the table at the Benefits Fair. She noted the recent passing of Judy Holt, who made significant contributions to the retirement association. Ann shared information on food pantry donations that show a good response and that contributions are noticeably higher at events requiring registration. The emeritus document was vetted with Mark Walters and Margy May in OHR and was sent electronically to Mark, Dave Prucha at Extension and System Administration. It will go on the web once Pat returns. It was also handed out at the Benefits Fair. Dale Burke has written an article on WCOA that will be in *The Sifter*. The WCOA minutes from the September

meeting will be sent out when available. Senator Dave Hansen spoke at the meeting. The Coalition website, [www.wicoa.org](http://www.wicoa.org), has a link to “A Program in Balance,” a good description of the Wisconsin Retirement System. A mailing was sent last week to the 113 people whose memberships expired in 2014. Attendance figures for September events were reviewed. It was agreed that we do not want to tell committees when to schedule their events. Committees may be encouraged to consult the calendar when scheduling, which is commonly done already. The presentation on health insurance on October 21 at Capitol Lakes is already filled to capacity at 110.

Committee reports—Written reports were distributed for the Electronic Technology Committee, Social Committee, Membership Committee and Travel Committee. Jan Richardson reported that the October 29 presentation, “Eating the Mediterranean Way,” has had a light sign-up. An email reminder will be sent out. The subcommittee seeking an editor for *The Sifter* will meet soon, with Chere Gibson serving as chair. Phil Certain thanked Dale Burke and the Volunteering Committee for the t-shirts that were distributed. Dale reported that he knew of 6 volunteers for the Science Fair. Spots are still available, but most are filled. The website is difficult to navigate.

#### Old Business:

Report on Big 10 conference—Jan Richardson reported on the Big 10 conference at the University of Minnesota. The retirement associations all have similar issues, such as data, membership, and leadership. Some only are open to emeriti. One has emeriti and other retirees in separate groups. A variety of funding arrangements were reported, ranging from no funding to sponsorships to university department funding (HR or Provost) to an endowment. Some have very strong relationships with their HR department, and a couple have fractional dedicated staff. \$50,000 in faculty grants are awarded by one retirement association. Iowa holds a photo contest that is something the Social Committee may consider. The conference will be held at Michigan State University next year.

#### New Business:

Securing benefits for non-UW-Madison members—Phil Certain reviewed some of the organizational history of various UW System units that were once part of UW-Madison but are independent now, including UW Health and Extension. Former staff of those units do not have access to DoIT and other benefits. It has not been determined who at UW-Madison decides who is eligible. How many are interested in such benefits? DoIT services are extended only to emeriti, and DoIT may be reluctant to expand. What is the role of the association in this regard? Our bylaws outline a much broader reach for membership. Budgets are very tight, so this may be an effort that might be better received at a later date.

Perhaps the Electronic Technology Committee could inquire about future technology access and a presentation on Office 365.

Proposal from Membership Committee to **pursue online registration and payment for programs and membership**—Deb Lauder explained that online applications would encourage membership and attendance by younger retirees. **The proposal is to investigate existing systems that we might be able to adopt and report back to the board. Dale Burke made a motion to approve, seconded by Rick Daluge.** Discussion ensued about the need to know potential liability involved, and concerns were expressed about money handling on-line and related charges. It was agreed that we would need to identify a stable, proven platform for data and financial transactions. Ann Wallace expressed concern about implementing a new system while she is Executive Director and while the current system is working. The motion is only to explore the possibilities, and there is no guarantee that an appropriate platform can be identified that we would be permitted to adopt. Nonetheless, it seems prudent to learn about the possibilities. **The motion passed.**

Next meeting—November 11, 2014, at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Richner  
Secretary