

BGSURA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2010
COLLEGE PARK, ROOM 2

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Anderson, David Chilson, Jim Corbitt, Ramona Cormier, Jim Gordon, Joan Gordon, Ted Groat, Paul Haas, Sue Hager, Hal Lunde, Paul Lopez, Janet Parks, Chris Sexton, Genevieve Stang, Diana Shamp

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Hamilton, Joe Jacoby, Eldon Snyder, Elmer Spreitzer

President Cormier called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

The minutes of the July 21, 2010 meeting were approved, as amended, with the following changes:

- *Treasurer's Report* – the board approved the FY2011 budget, not the FY2010 actual
- *Professional Committee* – addition of the word “be” to the second sentence and deletion of comma following Provost Dr. Kenneth Borland’s name in line 6.
- *DataBase Administrator* – addition of the word “he” and “Jim” to the last sentence
- *Newsletter* – Change Roger Anderson to Joan Gordon as the backup for the data base and listserv
- *OCHER* – correction of the spelling of the last name of Laura Ecklar, Director of STRS.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Lunde presented the Board with an amended budget based on the Board’s approval to increase the membership dues in each category and eliminate the 2 year full and associate membership categories. Lunde made a motion to approve the revised budget, seconded by Sexton. Motion approved.

Treasurer Lunde then noted that as of June 30, 2010, the balance in the treasury was \$9,330.99. With income of \$12,051.99 and expenditures of \$3,172.94, the balance as of September 30, 2010 was \$8,879.05.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cormier thanked the group for a very successful convocation. Treasurer Lunde noted that 100 attendees were present. She stated that Judy Hagemann of the Milet Center, who has been in charge of the Golden Book Award account, would be retiring and that Susan Ferguson would be her replacement. The account current has \$1,687.50 in the operating budget and \$14,676.96 in the endowment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOMINATING – Chair Parks noted that Joan Gordon, Dick Edwards and she would be meeting in early November and would appreciate recommendations from other board members.

PROGRAM – Chair Chilson stated that he had been in contact with Susan Mack of the College of Music to request a musician or group for the January 12, 2011 luncheon. He also noted that at the March 2011 luncheon, Pat Fitzgerald would be presenting a history of WBGU.

ACTIVITIES – President Cormier reminded everyone of the dance on November 21st at the Bavarian House outside of Deshler, and the cocktail party on December 16th at Dr. Ralph Wolfe's in North Baltimore.

BYLAWS – Chair Joan Gordon noted that the committee has nothing further to review, but if anyone had changes to please let her know.

MEMBERSHIP – Co-chair Corbitt noted that the committee had had two meetings and many ideas had been discussed on how to encourage more people to join BGSURA. He noted that there would be a couple of articles in the newsletter for November regarding membership. Treasurer Lunde provided a listing of past members that had not paid and asked if the membership committee could follow up with emails, phone calls, etc. Corbitt questioned how credit is given for membership monies received. Is it when it is received and then it is due one year from then, or is it for the fiscal year? Lunde stated that regardless of when the membership due is received, it pays for that fiscal year. It would be impossible to keep track of it otherwise. The question of eliminating the first year free membership was discussed. Anderson noted that both the Ohio State University and University of Toledo offer a one-year free membership and it has been successful. Approximately one-third of their retirees join the group, BGSU's numbers are much lower. Was it the stigma that it is a faculty group? Both Hager and Cormier noted that the original committee was designed for all, but was started primarily by faculty and that may have caused the misconception. Sexton noted that the separation program has caused a lot of bad feelings and lack of desire to want to continue to be a part of the university. Jim Gordon brought up the question as to whether two retirees within the same household need two newsletters. Elimination of the duplicate mailing would save money in printing and postage. It was agreed that a letter would be sent by the Membership Committee to the sixteen (16) households in question giving them the option to receive one or both.

BENEVOLENCE – President Cormier noted that McCaghy has continued to send condolence cards to the family of deceased university employees.

DATABASE/NEWSLETTER – Jim Gordon noted that the September newsletter was sent to 1,273 retirees and that the November newsletter would be put in the mail that week. Gordon noted that he was using a company "MAIL-IT" out of Toledo for the mailings. The company can print labels and the barcode for \$.22 per newsletter. He stated that the November newsletter would contain a color-coded label on the membership form, based on the person's membership status. The label categories were 1) life membership, 2) new memberships, 3) first year free membership, and 4) first year free membership or previous member who had not yet renewed. A total of 475 newsletters would be mailed through the campus post office and a breakdown was 108 one-year full memberships, 99 life memberships, 138 first year free memberships, and 130 memberships that had expired and not yet been renewed. Hager questioned whether the life memberships should continue to be promoted? Were they cost-effective? Treasurer Lunde noted that he had already received two life memberships this fiscal year and had projected ten throughout the year.

Jim Gordon noted that between September and November, he had only done web-based newsletters. Both Lunde and Cormier thanked Gordon for all his work.

OCHER – Anderson noted that at the next meeting on November 16th, the featured speaker would be from OPERS. Ted Foster, President of OCHER, had recently passed away and Lou DiOrion, the Vice President, had succeeded him. Anderson shared with the group information from the OSU Advocacy Committee regarding STRS pension reform and possibilities of mandatory social security for those individuals in state pension systems.

OFFICE STAFFING – No report

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COUNCIL – In Hamilton's absence, Corbitt reported that at the meeting on October 7th, it was noted that the University had received a \$34,000 grant from NCAA to encourage attendance at women's basketball games this year. Each constituent group has a different game of promotion. The ASC game is November 17th and if 200 administrative staff attend basketball games during the year, ASC will receive \$1,000 for their scholarship fund. Vice President Sheri Stoll was scheduled to meet with the group, but could not, so responded to questions provided to her by email regarding the \$8-9 million reduction in state funds, are program or job eliminations in the future? What cost savings measures are being discussed? Also the status of furlough days as they only generate a one-time savings in funds. Need options that are more permanent. Other topics of discussion included the change in the University's pharmacy carrier effective January 1, 2011; a meeting on October 18th between the Executive Group of ASC and Mercer, a consulting firm; changes in parking on 1/1/11; meeting on October 19th between ASC Executive Group and President Cartwright regarding the SSI (State share of Instruction) cut and how it is going to be handled; Dr. Cartwright's first impression of ASC and what it is now; the possibility of a faculty union – potential impact on shared governance.

CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL – CSC membership is concerned with the 309 committee, which was the result of legislation (Bill 309) passed in the late 1980's that gave state agencies the ability to set up their own job descriptions rather than using the state scale. In a recent survey conducted by Human Resources, job descriptions from 1985 were used rather than the current BGSU job descriptions. Human Resources had not provided copies of the survey packet and criteria that was used to select area comparables. Other problems noted were inaccuracies in job descriptions, calculations inconsistent with mathematical formulas for mean value, no date submitted for mean and median values for private, industry and government and no proof of analysis provided. At a recent meeting with Dr. Cartwright, it was noted that new housing units may not include classified staff to clean and repair. Bruce Meyers, director of Facilities Services, stated that BGSU is working with Granger, a consultant, to create additional "vendor managed" areas. Vice President Sheri Stoll had previously commented that outside vendors are not interested in managing or providing service to areas that do not generate a profit. There is also concern regarding the trend to change classified to administrative staff positions when jobs are vacated because of retirements, separation, etc.

FACULTY SENATE – Lunde reported that Faculty Senate is working on curriculum. President Cartwright had reported a neutral position on the union vote. Counting of the union votes to be finalized today. He noted that 347 retirees are currently members of BGSURA. He has asked Bill

Knight, BGSU statistician, and Rebecca Ferguson, Vice President of Human Resources, as to the number of new hires that have elected the Alternative Retirement Program (ARP) in lieu of the STRS or OPERS state system defined benefit retirement plan. There is a concern that the institution will see a decline if more people elect the defined contribution (DC) selection, rather than the defined benefit (DB) plan. As the Defined Contribution plan is more portable than the Defined Benefit plan, this could show a lack of commitment to the institution.

RETIREMENT INFORMATION VOLUNTEERS – Sexton noted that the need for assistance is down since the separation program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Wood County Retired Teachers Association (WCRTA)

President Cormier stated she had met with Donna Schmidt of the Wood County Retired Teachers Association regarding the issue of the joint meeting always dealing with legislative programs for STRS only. She stated that WCRTA will assume the March 2011 meeting and it will only be legislative. WCRTA has severed membership with BGSURA and we may attend but only through our ties with BGSURA. Should BGSURA have a March meeting independent of WCRTA? The Program Committee had suggested March 23rd as a separate BGSURA meeting date. Hager moved, Anderson seconded to have the March 16th meeting date changed to March 23rd with Pat Fitzgerald as speaker. WCRTA will retain the March 16th date for their legislative meeting. Chilson will confirm with Stone Ridge for March 23rd.

NEW BUSINESS

BGSURA Research Office

President Cormier had sent a letter to Provost Borland requesting a research office since the one BGSURA previously had is no longer available. Dr. Borland responded that he would be checking to another office space. Cormier will follow up to see if one has been found.

BGSURA Relationship to University

President Cormier noted that she had also sent an email to Provost Borland requesting better communication between the administration and retirees of BGSU, especially those decisions made that directly impact retirees. Dr. Borland responded by saying that the University will re-double their efforts to maintain a strong communication line with retirees and will make every effort to pass along the best of timely information. He also asked for input regarding desired topics that are of concern. Cormier suggested that the President of BGSURA be the contact through whom all inquiries are made, and asked what questions might be asked of Dr. Borland and the administration. Members asked about the potential loss of office space in College Park and the changes being made in the parking (i.e. charging for decal).

Price of luncheon meals

President Cormier also noted that members/attendees seemed to like the full service meal at the convocation luncheon. Groat noted that with full service, but no dessert, the cost would be \$10.95 rather than \$10.50. Attendees are currently charged \$11.00 for a luncheon meal. Haas moved, Sexton seconded that the luncheon fee be increased from \$11.00 to \$12.00 and that we go from a

buffet to a full-service meal, effective January 2011. Chilson will contact Stone Ridge to be sure they can accommodate the change for the January luncheon. The motion was unanimously approved.

Other

Chilson noted that he had been a member of the Student Veteran Association's Black Board Committee on campus, but now had been told that he's no longer eligible to be a member as he is now a retiree. Shouldn't retirees be included as eligible for these types of committees?

Anderson raised a question as to what happened to the relationship between the Family Campaign and retirees. Retirees have historically been the largest contributors to the campaign, but there no longer seems to be contact between the university and retirees in this regard.

These may be additional issues to address with Provost Borland.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

<p>The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2011 1:30 p.m. in Room 2 of College Park</p>
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Diana Shamp
BGSURA Secretary