

**BGSURA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES OF APRIL 15, 2009  
BGSU, COLLEGE PARK ROOM 1**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Roger Anderson, Clif Boutelle, Don Bright, Ramona Cormier, Joan Gordon, Jim Gordon, H. Theodore Groat, Sue Hager, Janet Parks, Chris Sexton, Genevieve Stang, Diana Shamp

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Pietro Badia, Robert Clark, Barbara Keller, Park Leathers, Harold Lunde, Charles McCaghy, Rebecca McOmbler, Jane Schimpf, Elmer Spreitzer

President Cormier called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2009 MEETING**

Correction: Joan Gordon should have been listed as Secretary Protem. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was seconded and approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

In the absence of Treasurer Lunde, President Cormier reported income as of March 31 at \$16,100.47 and expenses at \$6,271.73, leaving a balance of \$9,828.74 as of that date. The financial report is on file with these minutes.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Cormier reminded members of the April 22 joint meeting with The University of Toledo and that the registration deadline was that day. She also noted last luncheon of the 2008-2009 year would be May 13 at Stone Ridge Golf Club with Michelle Grigore, Director of Parks and Recreation in Bowling Green, as speaker.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **ACTIVITIES** -- President Cormier reminded members of the book discussion to be held on April 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Diane and Wally Pretzer. James Purdy's "*The Nephew*" will be reviewed.
- **BYLAWS** -- Joan Gordon reported nothing currently needed to be changed, but a review of the bylaws was being done.
- **MEMBERSHIP** -- No report
- **NEWSLETTER** -- Jim Gordon, editor, stated the May newsletter would be going out next week with a ballot of the nominations for officers and board members to be elected for 2009-2011. Gordon also noted that with the assistance of Carol Lininger, the URL (web address) for the Retiree Association has been updated. The new address is [www.bgsu.edu/retirement](http://www.bgsu.edu/retirement).
- **NOMINATING** -- Parks reported the slate of candidates for officers and six (6) director positions had been finalized. Candidates are Ramona Cormier for President; Harold Lunde for Treasurer; Christine Sexton, Linda Hamilton, Joe Jacoby, Paul Haas, Paul Lopez and Elmer Spreitzer for directors. President Cormier thanked the out-going Board members (Jane Schimpf, Pietro Badia, Don Bright and Rebecca McOmbler) for their service.

A discussion was held regarding some unfounded criticism received by some members of BGSURA regarding inviting some of the candidates running for STRS office to the January luncheon and not all candidates. Anderson and Cormier stated that none of the four individuals running for office had been invited to the luncheon, two were more local and just showed up.

- **OCHER** – Anderson spoke on the upcoming May 19<sup>th</sup> OCHER conference at the STRS headquarters in Columbus. Topics of discussion include: National Coalitions of State Pension Systems; The Economic Efficiencies of Defined Benefit Pension Plans; and healthcare issues. He invited members to attend with Genevieve Stang and him.

Stang noted that efforts continue to create a revenue stream for the STRS Health Care Stabilization Fund, which could be depleted by 2018, if no changes are made. House Bill 315, which would have increased employer STRS contributions by 2.5% to help subsidize healthcare, now needs to be re-introduced. STRS is reviewing ways to make large budgetary cuts by 2010 and is working with the other state systems as a means to reduce the unfunded liability and implement cost savings.

Anderson also reminded members of the Retiree reception to be held on April 28 at the Mileti Center. Recent new retirees will be honored.

- **OFFICE STAFFING** -- No Report

- **OFFICE OPERATION** -- No Report

- **PROFESSIONAL** -- No Report

- **PROGRAM** -- Groat announced the fall convocation, scheduled for September 16, and in the BTSU Ballroom had been changed to Room 201 – The Sky Bank Room. This change was made by the Union due to scheduling conflicts. Some concern on the smaller size of the room. He will investigate menu options and prices at Stone Ridge Golf Club as a possible alternative and report back at the next meeting. The 2009-2010 schedule of programs has been finalized and include:

September 16, 2009 -- Fall Convocation, featuring Tom Walton, retired editor and current columnist for *The Blade* in Toledo

November 11, 2009 -- Dr. David Skaggs, Professor Emeritus of History at BGSU

January 13, 2010 -- Dr. Carol Cartwright, President of BGSU

March?, 2010 -- Joint luncheon with Wood County Retired Teachers Association

April 14, 2010 --- Joint program with the University of Toledo Retirees Association, featuring Dr. Melissa Miller, BGSU political science faculty

May 12, 2010 -- Jim Tichy, retired TV24 sports director, speaking on the Honor Flight program, which honors veterans of World War II

- **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE** -- No Report

- **CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE** -- Sexton reported employees are concerning themselves with the bumping and layoffs occurring. CSC had done a great job of keeping employees informed and making sure that all their options are clearly understood. No

final number of affected employees is available at this time. The Classified and Administrative Staff Service award ceremony was held on April 2 and the Classified Staff outstanding employee and team award ceremony is April 16.

• **FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**REPRESENTATIVE --** No report

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Retirement Information Volunteer Program --** Sexton reported that she and Paul Lopez had met with two employees who contacted the office for assistance regarding their retirement. She noted that some emails and voicemails were being left on the machines and she was unsure if they had been responded to. Need to review processes. She would like to do a promotional campaign for the retirement assistance program in the fall and again next spring, using all resources available (BG News, The Monitor, flyers, etc). Lunde made a suggestion that the Retirement Information Volunteer Program be institutionalized as a committee in the bylaws and Joan Gordon stated she would look into the matter. Sexton will set up a meeting with Becca Ferguson, HR Director, President Cormier, Diana Shamp and herself to review and evaluate the program thus far and see where possible changes and/or improvements might be made for the future.

**Golden Book Award Scholarship --** The \$500.00 scholarship is available for this fall and the recipient will be chosen from the College of Business. Because interest on the Golden Book endowment may not pay for the scholarship in the future, discussion was held regarding how to assure the continuation of the award. Suggestions included donation baskets at meetings and programs and an article and reminder(s) in the newsletters. Stang moved that due to the current financial crisis and until further notice, all gifts to BGSURA'S Golden Book Award will be deposited into the endowment's spending account to cover future annual scholarships, and also the donation baskets will reappear at the 2009-10 luncheon meetings to assist in the funding of the scholarships. Hager seconded the motion and it was approved.

**BGSU Centennial Commission --** Boutelle stated that as part of the celebration, a book is being published of 100 University facts and would welcome any BGSURA member who might be interested in assisting with compiling material for the book. Jim Gordon will put a notice in the May newsletter.

The next Board meeting will be held in July, with the date to be announced.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Diana Shamp  
Secretary