

**BGSURA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16, 2011
COLLEGE PARK, ROOM 2**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Jacoby, Diana Shamp, Eldon Snyder, Elmer Spreitzer

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

MINUTES

Lopez moved that the minutes of the October 20, 2010, meeting be approved as distributed. The motion was seconded and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Lunde reviewed the income and expenses for the report ending January 31, 2011. Income is \$16,781.99, with expenses at \$5,106.77, for a balance of \$11,675.22. (Report attached)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cormier thanked everyone for the success of the last luncheon and program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOMINATING – Chair Parks noted that she and the committee of Joan Gordon and Dick Edwards need one more director for the ballot which will then be ready for board approval. (Note: Subsequently, the completed ballot was approved by an e-mail vote by the board.)

PROGRAM – Chair Chilson reported that programs for this year are all set. The Program Committee will meet February 21 to work on planning programs for 2011-2012.

ACTIVITIES – Activities planned by Wally Pretzer for the rest of the year will be listed in the next newsletter.

BYLAWS – Chair Joan Gordon reported that no one had offered any amendments to the Bylaws. She noted that she had read them with an eye to changes and found nothing that needed to be changed at this time.

MEMBERSHIP – Co-chair Corbitt reported that 35 of the 97 persons who had a first-year free membership “renewed.” Thank you notes need to be sent to new and renewing members along with life members. BGSURA has a total of 349 members, as of this date. Some retirees think BGSURA is only for faculty; we need to make an effort to say it's all retirees. Take out references to faculty, administrative, and classified in materials.

BENEVOLENCE – President Cormier noted that McCaghy continues to send condolence cards to the family of deceased University employees.

DATA BASE/NEWSLETTER – Jim Gordon reported that the deadline for the next newsletter is the first week of April. It will include the reservation form for the May 11 luncheon.

He explained a little about the date base process that he uses to prepare mailings, etc. He is using a mailing house, Mail-It Corp. in Toledo. The mailings are routed through the BGSU post office. This process saves BGSURA nearly \$527 annually on mailings.

Anderson moved that for new retirees wanting to join BGSURA we give them up to one and one-half years of membership from the date they join. The motion was seconded and approved.

OCHER – Anderson reported that STRS and the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees (OCHER) are sponsoring a conference to discuss the current political landscape and its relationship to pension plan reform, what’s happening in other states, and developing action plans. (Flyer attached to these minutes)

Stang distributed a flyer (attached to these minutes) on how retirement systems stress the value of defined benefit plans. Her report also noted the introduction of House Bill 69, containing changes to the five statewide public pension plans, including STRS Ohio.

OFFICE STAFFING – The printer is now working.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COUNCIL – Hamilton reported that she had attended two meetings of Administrative Staff Council since the last BGSURA Board meeting. President Cartwright addressed the Council at its February meeting. She talked about the budget cut and some of the items that might be affected such as limiting graduate student stipends. She also talked about collective bargaining and how it might affect employees. The President said the Centers of Excellence will be retained. Changes in parking will probably be coming in September.

CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL – Sexton said that an issue with the CSC is discipline hearings being held without a discipline hearing board or committee. So they are discussing what is a discipline hearing. Also being discussed is “years” of service. Does this mean all years of service to the University (no temporary employment)?

FACULTY SENATE – Lunde said he feels there has been a cultural change at the University. He feels the best way to work things out is by participative leadership. The real problem is the struggle with an adversarial culture.

RETIREMENT INFORMATION VOLUNTEERS – Sexton reported they had counseled 3-4 retirees over the last three months.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

• BGSURA Research Office

President Cormier that she had had no response from Provost Ken Borland about the research office.

- **Price of Luncheon Meals**

Discussion was on whether the \$14 fee should be made permanent? Hager moved that BGSURA keep the \$14 luncheon fee permanent. The motion was seconded and approved.

- **Golden Book Award**

The vote via e-mail to put all but \$500 in the Endowment portion of the Golden Book Award was approved. The spendable account has \$6,187.59 in it and the Endowment account has \$18,155.06, as of this date. A total of \$150 was donated in the baskets at the last meeting. Members need to be encouraged to give to the Endowment so the scholarship can grow.

- **BGSURA Relationship to the University**

BGSURA is not in the University Charter as an organization, but as individual retirees. Benefits for BGSURA therefore are probably what the organization asks for. Stang moved that the Professional Committee be directed to study the status of what's happening on campus and the retirees' relationship to the University. The motion was seconded and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2011-2012**

There was discussion about the number of general meetings during a year. The January meeting was called into question with its propensity for bad weather. Chilson moved to have two meetings in the Spring—in March and May, with an April meeting reserved for a meeting with the University of Toledo retirees.

- **Board Meetings**

Brief discussion was held on meeting days for the Board. It was noted that they aren't required to be held on Wednesday, that the President and Board members can be flexible in their choice of meeting days.

The next Board meeting will be April 20.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Joan Gordon
Secretary Pro Tem