

BGSURA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**October 14, 2009
College Park, Room 2**

PRESENT: Clif Boutelle, R. K. Clark, Ramona Cormier, Jim Gordon, Ted Groat , Paul Haas, Sue Hager, Linda Hamilton, Joe Jacoby, Park Leathers Paul Lopez, Hal Lunde, Genevieve Stang

ABSENT: Roger Anderson, Joan Gordon, Barbara Keller, Charles McCaghy, Janet Parks, Bill Rock, Chris Sexton, Diana Shamp, Elmer Spreitzer

Ramona Cormier called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2009

Ramona Cormier called attention to the incorrect spelling of the name of the student who received the Golden Book Award and asked that the minutes of the July 22nd meeting read that Rawlin Myers received the award. The minutes were approved as corrected.

TERASURER'S REPORT

Hal Lunde distributed copies of the report for FY08 Actual, FY09 Actual and FY10 Activity to Date and FY09 Budget Needs Protection calling attention to the typo error in the title which should read FY10 Budget Needs Projection. Lunde stated the organization is in good shape financially, but cautioned that next year will not be as impressive. The fact that the Foundation will not pay any interest (as was anticipated in preparing the budget) as overall funds have been so low there is nothing to distribute. The BGSURA balance as of 9/30/09 is \$13,220.30.

Discussion focused on outcome of the on-going membership drive, the accounting of funds from Life memberships, the carryover of funds (\$10,589.48), the resolution of a \$736.59 check not cashed resulting in that money being granted to the organization, and whether or not it would be advisable to make use of CD's rather than going through the University to get higher interest. It was agreed that the advantages of going through the University out-weighed setting up a separate system. A spending account system had been established and is being used for the Golden Book Awards. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Cormier thanked the Program Committee and all involved for the very successful fall convocation. She reminded members that BGSU President Carol Cartwright will be the speaker at the January 13th meeting. She also indicated that BGSURA is one of the sponsors of the meeting of the candidates organized by the League of Women Voters to be held October 23rd at the First United Methodist Church with doors opening at 6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACTIVITIES: In the absence of Chair Pretzer, Cormier made reference to three up-coming programs set up by the Program Committee: 1) Dancing at Bavarian House in Deshler, 4-8 p.m., Oct. 18th ; 2) Book Discussion 7:00 p.m. Nov. 17th- home of Carole Bradford, 1410 Meadowbrook Drive, Perrysburg--Book available at Wood County Library--Daughter of Fortune by Isabel Allende 3) Cocktails at Emma Hann's 216 Western Ave. 4:00-6:00 p.m. Dec. 3rd. Call Wally Pretzer (419-352-8057) if more information is needed.

BY-LAWS: In the absence of Joan Gordon who was attending another meeting there was no report.

MEMBERSHIP: Park Leathers, Chair, distributed a two-page report reflecting membership as of 10/9/09. There are two new life memberships and a total of 89 reported. Total membership stands at 314--236 regular, 21 associate and 57 first-year members. Leather's report included a list of non-renewals from 2008-09 to 2009-10 by name and an appeal to contact those listed.

NOMINATING: In the absence of Chair Parks, Cormier reported that the committee had had a good response in their efforts to recruit Board members.

OCHER: Stang reported that at the Sept. 15th meeting Greg Nichols, Director of Health Care Benefits, presented an informative PowerPoint program explaining the current situation regarding health care. Jim Gordon has distributed this report to BGSURA Board members via email. Terri Biederman, STRS Director of Government Relations is to be the speaker for the November 15th meeting. She is very active at the national level and should bring information regarding pensions. A May 2010 conference is being planned to bring in people from the surrounding non-social security states to consider how they are handling the pension situation.

STRS is holding a series of meetings for members, the closest being in Perrysburg Oct. 29th. [Word as of 10/15/09 that due to large number of requests, another meeting has been scheduled for Nov. 11th] . STRS Board meets Oct. 15 and 16. Open enrollment for PERS began in early October and will begin Nov. 1 for STRS members. Insurance materials are expected to be mailed around Oct. 23.

The Ohio Retirement Study Council has reviewed plans from the five retirement systems as to how they propose to either return to or stay within the 30-year statutory funding period. Most of the changes proposed require legislation. ORSC was to meet Oct. 14th and will prepare recommendations to be sent to legislators. Action on legislation is not likely until 2010. HB315 was an effort to increase funds coming in for the health care stabilization fund. No action has been taken on this bill.

OFFICE STAFFING: Jan Peterson extended thanks to those who have helped man the office and reported that volunteers are needed for spring semester.

OFFICE OPERATIONS: Park Leathers indicated he had no report.

PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEE: Hal Lunde indicated he had no report.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Ted Groat reported that arrangements are complete for the Jan. 13 luncheon meeting to be held at Stone Ridge with BGSU President Cartwright as the speaker. The fee needs to be reported as \$11.00. The April 14th meeting will have Mellisa Miller, Political Science, as the speaker. The topic for the April 12th meeting will be about the Honor Flight Program. Both the April and May meetings will be held at Stone Ridge. Chair Groat indicated the committee will meet soon to begin preparation for the 2010-2011 meetings.

The March 11th meeting will be held at the First Methodist Church and is a joint meeting with Wood County Retired Teachers. The speaker will be STRS Exec. Director Michael J. Nehf. There will be a joint meeting with University Toledo Retirees Assoc. on April 14th.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COUNCIL, CLASSIFIED STAFF COUNCIL, PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS: There were no reports from the representatives as they were all absent.

FACULTY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE: R.K. Clark reported BGSU Pres. Cartwright had reviewed enrollment patterns. On campus enrollment is down about 2.3% but credit hours are up. Firelands campus is up 2.6% as is on line registration (2.0%) and international students 3.7%. Fall retention is up 1.0%. Clark reported that 70% of the students receive some type of financial aid. He noted that enrollment efforts have included more high school visits and change in advertisement approach.

Clark also reported that an architectural firm from Boston has been hired and that considerable changes of the campus are in the works. Given the current expectations for student housing and the type of housing being made available off campus by outside developers, changes are to be made in residence halls. Rogers is to be demolished. McDonalds is to be renovated. Efforts are to move academic buildings farther in. Upon inquiry about cost of all the changes, Clark indicated it was reported that they have the money. Lunde's inquiry about the Business building was answered by Clark that nothing had been said. Cormier asked about the time period for the changes.

RETIREMENT INFORMATION VOLUNTEERS: Paul Lopez reported that two new members have been added--Jan Peterson and Gaylyn Finn. Since Jan 1 the RIV group has given information to 25 people seeking information about retirement, with Diana Shamp being the primary person giving this assistance. Inquiries are received via email and phone messages and both of these sources are checked regularly. Training for new members will be completed shortly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

GOLDEN BOOK AWARD: Cormier reported current status of funds-\$2,290 in the spending fund which can pay for a couple of awards. She clarified the difference between the endowment and spending funds. Lunde urged building the endowment funds which stands at \$12,203. Upon Cormier's inquiry, Jim Gordon displayed a sign for urging members to contribute to the baskets at the next luncheon. A decision was made not to use the baskets at the fall convocation but they will be used at the luncheon meetings.

NEW ORGAN: Lunde invited members to the 8:30 a.m. service at St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday, Oct. 18th for the dedication of their new organ. Stang commented on the generous contributions of University staff such as the Ort's and Lunde in support of music.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER: Jim Gordon described the financial advantage of using e mail to distribute the BGSURA newsletter and provided a mock-up for comment. Discussion focused on concerns for verifying newsletter had been received and how to handle those without computer access. Gordon indicated that it would be possible to begin the electronic newsletter in January. There would be both a renewal form and a reservation form included. Lunde moved to adopt the "Gordon Plan" for the newsletter. Lopez seconded the motion which carried.

BGSURA HANDBOOK: The need for a few corrections was identified and it was agreed that these could be made on-line. The number of copies available was questioned and the need to have these available for new retirees. Cormier questioned whether information in the document was to be deemed law to which Lunde responded with reference to the disclaimer that appears in the front of the document. The possible need to making this more obvious was noted.

ADJOURNMENT: Cormier adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

Genevieve Stang, Sec. ProTem