

OSU Emeriti Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 2, 2023

1:30 Emeriti Suite

Executive Committee Members Present: Gary Sherrer, Kent Sampson, Priscilla Gerfen, Kay Keys, Ron Miller

Council Members Present: Judy Hoberock, Barbara Miller, Carolyn Gang, Ray Huhnke, Gary Clark, Bob LeValley

Committee Chairs Present: Clem Ward

Emeriti Support Present: Sofia Gustafson

Guests Present: Cathy Shuffield

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Gary. It was moved (Kent) and seconded (Ray) that Carol Schmitz be approved to complete the term of Mike Woods, who has become president-elect. The motion carried. Carol's term will end in December of 2024.

Minutes: It was moved (Kent) and seconded (Ron) that the minutes of the November 28 meeting be approved. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: After considerable discussion, the following actions were taken:

- It was moved (Kent) and seconded (Bob) that the December treasurer's report be received as presented. The motion passed.
- It was moved (Carolyn) and seconded (Kent) that the 2023 budget be approved. The motion carried.
- It was moved (Carolyn) and seconded (Barbara) that the Council accept the offer of \$1,000 made by an un-named individual to ensure that the cost of monthly meals remains at \$15. The motion passed.
- It was moved (Kent) and seconded (Gary Clark) that a letter requesting a \$1,650 reimbursement for last year's set-up fees be sent through the provost to the Foundation. The motion carried.
- It was moved (Kent) and seconded (Bob) that a decision regarding what to do with the cash portion of the "General" fund be postponed until the next meeting. The motion carried.
- It was moved (Barbara) and seconded (Gary Clark) that the executive board meet and bring recommendations to the next meeting regarding the following issues:
 - the cash portion of the "General" fund
 - the use of life dues going forward
 - the current \$5,000 Certificate of Deposit, which matures on March 2

Past President's Report: Kent stated that he and Gary had met with Ann Caine, the new director of the Alumni Association, on January 9 to discuss the proposed renewal agreement between the Emeriti Association and the Alumni Association. He reported that Ann was receptive to the agreement, but needed time to consider it. To date, he has not received the signed agreement, but hopes to have it by the next meeting of the Council.

On January 9, there was also a meeting of the executive group regarding the best use of Council funds. The group plans to meet again before making recommendations.

Kent reported that he has asked Cathy Bird to work with the Foundation to ensure that one of our two scholarships carries the name of Ken McCollom. Ken's widow, Catherine, gave \$10,000 to the Emeriti Association in 2018 to use in any way deemed appropriate. The Council decided to add the money to the scholarship fund and offer a second scholarship named for Ken. While both scholarships have been awarded since then, there has been no specific recognition of Dr. McCollom.

Finally, Kent stated that Zane is working on the new directory and expressed appreciation to him for having included a brief article in the newsletter assuring retirees that the current dispute between the Stillwater Medical Center and Blue Cross Blue Shield will not affect them. Negotiations continue between the two entities. It is believed that a resolution will be forthcoming.

Vice-president for Activities: Priscilla reminded the group that Kendria Cost will be the speaker at the February 6 Monday night dinner. She is the new director of Pete's Pet Posse, having taken over the position when Ann Hargis left. Two handlers and two dogs will also be present that evening. Priscilla plans to approach Ann at that time to see if she and Burns might be available to speak at the June meeting. Jerome Loughridge will be the speaker at the March dinner.

Administrative Report: At this time, 81 people have registered for the December dinner.

Membership Report: In Mike Lorenz's absence, he sent a written report, which follows these minutes. See below.

Committee Reports:

Faculty Council: Barbara's report follows these minutes. See below.

Catering: Clem distributed a written report outlining the previous year's dinners, to include cost, number served, and average feedback score for each. He announced that 2023 will be his last year in this position and asked that the Council identify a replacement by mid-year so that he and his successor can transition smoothly.

Other Reports:

Travel Update: Cathy Shuffield asked councilors to rank four potential trips for the spring. She will present the most popular one at the February dinner.

New Business:

Possible Appointment: Gary asked for a volunteer to study existing committees. Kent offered to handle the task as he reviews the Constitution and By-laws.

Job Description Updates: Kent distributed a Position Description Format. The position descriptions will be due in September.

Adjournment: It was moved (Barbara) and seconded (Kent) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10.

Announcements:

- The next dinner will be held at 6:00 on February 6. Kendria Cost will speak on Pete’s Pet Posse.
- The next council meeting will be held at 1:30 on February 27 in the Emeriti Suite.

Submitted by:

Kay W. Keys, Secretary

February 2, 2023, Membership Committee Report

Submitted by Michael Lorenz

We solicited new members twice in 2022 using information provided by HR. Recall that HR only provides names of retirees. Letters of invitation to join Emeriti Association are mailed using address labels provided by HR. Postage is paid by Provost’s Office.

New Members: 20

Lifetime: 5 couples (10) and 2 individual (2)

Burns Hargis & Ann Hargis (LC)

Gary Clark & Jane Clark (LC)

Camille DeYong (LI)

Stephen Eddy (IL)

Ronald Delahoussaye & Angela Delahoussaye (LC)

Ronald Thrasher & Connie Thrasher (LC)

John Veenstra & Ann Veenstra (LC)

Annual: 1 couple (2) and 4 individual (4)

Bob Graalman (AI)

Pam Lanman & Gary Lanman

Thomas Kuzmic
Heidi Hoart (AI)
Barbara Tessmann (AI)

Members renewing annual membership: 55
Members given lifetime membership: 39
Members deceased: 15

Total Members:
2021: 444
2022: 427 (-17)

Comments: The addition of new members is more than number of deceased members. Only 2 members did not renew annual membership. Since we do not have contact information for new retirees other than name, follow up solicitation is difficult unless they have contact information in the OSU Directory. Fall 2022, we sent 85 letters of invitation and will try to follow up with e-mails to individuals that did not respond.

Ideas/suggestions on increasing membership are welcome.

I greatly appreciate the assistance of Sofia with the membership solicitation process and maintenance of the membership database.

January 17, 2023, Faculty Council Meeting Report
Submitted by Barbara Miller

Sgt. Adam Queen of the OSU Police Force reported on Active Shooter Training. He noted that this training is available to students, faculty and staff, and has been available since the Virginia Tech shootings in 2008. One of the most important things he talks about is warning signs of a possible shooter, and basic protection actions if you suspect a shooter is present. He noted such things as the fact that a normal leather belt can block a door from being opened, and two hardback or three paperback books will stop a bullet at close range. Cell phones should be set at vibrate not silent. Someone should take charge of classroom and pass instructions to students if an intruder is suspected. There is also an app for your phone with instructions. It was suggested that this app be put in the syllabi of classes.

Chad Weiberg, VP and athletic director reported that the POSSE group has contributed over 32 million dollars to the athletic department and that we have the lowest debt service in the Big 12, mostly because of big donors like Boone Pickens and the Greenwoods. We also have one of the top Sports Medical departments in the country. For example, helmets are individually created for each football player, then are thrown out when they leave the program. We are also proud that we have a balanced budget thanks to our donors,, of around 99 million up 2.30% from last year's dollars.

He also gave an update on the re-alignment progress. Many state legislatures are trying to change the NCAA rules about this, but NCAA is hanging tough so far. There are four new members to our conference, BYU, Houston, Central Florida, and Cincinnati. OU and Texas will be in the Big12 for at least another year.

Kye Wray reported for President Shrumm who is at the Capital today.

- Enrollment is up 2.30% from last year.
- Fall 2023 applications are up 4% from last year, over 16,000.
- Admissions are up 7%.
- enrollment deposits are up 53% over last year.

OSU faculty have been involved in many new STEM research areas. Dr. Henry Segerman is a mathematician that was featured in the New York Times January 1st. It has to do with Rubik's Cubes and geometric shapes. https://cas.okstate.edu/department_of_mathematics/index.html

Norb Delatte – made the media rounds after the Miami Surfside condo collapsed. Brand Management sent out an advisory to Dr. Delatte and asked if he could provide context on structure failures across the country.

Dr. John Holden – Was quoted as an expert in the national media outlets on bitcoin and gambling regulation.

Dr. Brian Elbing – Study on Infrasound Signatures from tornados.

President Shrumm also announced that OSU IT will offer fiber optics training classes at OSU Tulsa this semester, as part of increased cooperation between the two campuses.

Provost Mendez announced that four strategy groups for the strategic plan are beginning meetings. She has also created four institutes and the directors will be coming to faculty council in next months.

Dr. Hallenbeck reported on a great Martin Luther King march, with over 500 people.. The essay contest reported over 30 submissions. The freezes and thaws in December resulted in many pipe problems all over campus, and 80 students were relocated until pipes could be repaired.

Faculty Council President announced a new special committee designated to deal with non-tenure track faculty representation on campus is being created. It is hoped they will determine if a Standing committee should be created to permanently give this group representation on campus. Attached to the agenda was a recommendation to faculty Council from the Faculty Committee outlining a request to create such a committee with the goal of creating Standing committee by late May. It was approved by council.

Joe Weaver reported that they are in talks with Stillwater Medical Center and Blue Cross Blue Shield regarding problems with our medical coverage.

Karen Neurohr asked for nominations for ice chair/chair elect and secretary for next year. The Rules committee is also worked on publishing lists of classes using open educational resources.
