

## Minutes

### USI Retirees Coordinating Council Meeting Thursday, July 28, 2022 Griffin Center, 2 p.m.

**Members Present:** Cindy Brinker, John Deem, Craig Ehlen, Sandy Hatfield, Tim Mahoney, Phyllis Oeth, Marlene Shaw, Linda Tribble

**Members Absent:** Connie Schnarre, Maggie Carnahan (Foundation liaison)

**Call to Order:** President Cindy Brinker called the meeting to order at 2 p.m., and welcomed all members.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Craig Ehlen and seconded by Tim Mahoney to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2022, meeting as presented. Motion carried.

## REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report:** John Deem gave the Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance 7/1/2021	\$4,655.41
Receipts	
Membership fees	\$1540.00
Disbursements	
Scholarships	\$1,000.00
Council Giving Tree	\$ 75.00
Vintage Times Newsletter	\$ 743.71*
Retiree Event-Gallery Exhibit	\$ 158.61
Ending balance 4/30/2022	\$4,218.09

The charge for the VT newsletter was posted in error and will be removed next month, leaving a corrected balance of \$4,961.18. This is the annual treasurer's report as the fiscal year end was June 30, 2022.

Tim Mahoney made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report; Craig Ehlen seconded. Motion carried.

## President's Report:

Cindy Brinker reported that 20 retirees attended the Waters-Graham exhibit at the Thyen-Clark Cultural Center in Jasper on June 15. Although a van was reserved for transportation, it was not needed. It was brought to the group's attention that, in the future, if transportation is to be provided, it should be an accessible van. Lunch was purchased from McAlisters and was paid for by the Retirees' group. Alumni Affairs paid for all alumni attending, including those who were retirees. Kyle Rupert '10, Director of Art for the Cultural Center as well as Katie Waters and Matthew Graham greeted and gave presentations to the group. There was a great deal of positive feedback for the event.

The number of retirees signed up for the Facebook Group page has increased to 52 and participation continues to grow.

The Summer/Fall edition of the Vintage Times highlights retirees' activities, including an article written by Master Gardeners Shirley and Walter Everett. Other features include a photo from the visit to the Waters/Graham exhibit; an article about the Doctor of Laws degree presented to Dr. Nadine Coudret, founding dean of the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions; greetings from Honolulu from Dr. Charles Petranek; information about visits to the National Parks by Lori and Carl Saxby as well as information on upcoming events and the Retirees' Group Facebook Page. The edition also listed the spring 2022 grant recipients and a thank you message from Jacob Greenwell. The newsletter will be distributed to those attending the reception for retirees, mailed to those not attending, emailed and posted on the website. The Coordinating Council appreciates and thanks Co-Editors Linda Cleek '82 M'99 and Sherrienne Standley for the tremendous work dedicated to the Vintage Times.

The updated retirees directory will be available to those attending the reception and upon request through the Foundation. The directory will not be mailed, emailed or posted. Cindy and Carol Schmitt, Senior Systems Administrator from Information Technology, cleaned up the email distribution list improving the opportunity to reach as many retirees as possible.

The retiree welcome letter has been updated and sent out to new retirees. Of 60 letters sent, 8 joined the retirees' group by sending in their dues and 10 made reservations for the reception, where new retirees will be recognized.

#### Old Business

Upcoming events were discussed:

- **USI Retirees Annual Reception** to be held today from 4-6 p.m., in the Griffin Center. As Dr. Rochon is unable to attend, Provost Mohammed Khayum will give a presentation. Sandy Hatfield will accept dues from those wanting to join, and sign-up sheets will be available for the Turonis's pizza gathering and tour of the Evansville Wartime Museum.
- **Pizza Gathering at Turoni's on Main Street** is scheduled for August 16, 2022, from 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. The back room has been reserved. Attendees are encouraged to wear USI logo wear for a group photo to support the Administrative Senate's 'Feathering Your Nest' initiative.
- **Tour of the Evansville Wartime Museum** is September 19, 2022, from 1 – 4 p.m. Dr. Mark Browning will conduct the tour for our group. Dr. Browning informed Cindy the facility can accommodate groups of up to 50 people; the entry fee is \$10 per person. Craig Ehlen moved for the Retirees' Group to pay the entry fee for all attendees; Linda Tribble seconded. Motion carried.
- **USI Retirees Annual Meeting** will be November 17, 2022, from 4 – 6 p.m. Retiring Council members will be recognized and USI retirees who passed away over the past year will be remembered. A recap of activities from the year will be presented and Cindy will ask the bookstore for donations for attendance prizes. Ideas for a program were discussed, including the USI Jazz Band, Division I Athletics, Daniel Craig, Carl and Lori Saxby. The group asked Cindy to decide on a program based on availability and willingness of presenters to participate. It was noted that a basketball game is scheduled for the day of the Annual Meeting.

Discussion regarding the TouchNet web service for collecting dues is ongoing.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Committee Reports**

- Nominating Committee, chaired by Craig Ehlen: Craig has been contacting individuals to serve on the Coordinating Council and to serve as officers. Craig and John Deem, Treasurer, will be leaving the Council next year and Cindy's term as president ends. President-Elect Connie Schnarre has resigned due to personal reasons. Craig has had a few positive responses (Christy Baker and Janet Duncan) but many have said no. He will continue working with the goal of presenting a slate of officers and Coordinating Council members to the Council at the September meeting.
- Special Events Planning Committee for 2023, chaired by Phyllis Oeth: Phyllis presented several ideas for events and will ask for feedback and ideas from retirees through the Facebook page. Some ideas Phyllis has explored include the penguin exhibit at the zoo, Timberview Flower Farm, Thyme in the Kitchen, Painting with a Twist, Azalea Path in Princeton, the Peters-Margedant House on the UE campus, pop-up events at new restaurants, a basketball game using one of the suites in the arena, and a shopping trip. The goal is to have a list of events available by the Annual Meeting in November.
- Membership Recruitment Committee: Some recruitment tools are in place, including the Facebook page, the revised welcome letter for new retirees, and the Vintage Times newsletter. There is still a large percentage of retirees who have not joined the group.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The next meeting of the Coordinating Council will be September 15, 2022, at 2 p.m., in the Griffin Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Tribble, Secretary

## **ADDENDUM**

The President's Reception for USI retirees was held from 4-6 p.m., in the Griffin Center and was well attended. Dr. Mohammed Khayum, Provost, provided an update on university initiatives, as well as some information on the move to Division I athletics. Our thanks to the Foundation, Special Events staff and Sodexo for an enjoyable event.