

USI Retirees Coordinating Council Minutes

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Foundation Office 1:30 p.m.

Present: Jim Bando, Yvonne Floyd, Linda Cleek, Nils Johansen, Ginger Ramsden, Nancy Johnson, Phil Fisher, Michael Whipple,  
Absent: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Jim Bando at 1:28 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Phil moved the minutes of the March 16, 2017 meeting be approved as read. Linda seconded. The minutes were approved.

REPORTS

Report: Nancy reported the last formal financial statement she received reflects the February 2017 balance of \$4005.25. This represents \$1220.00 in paid memberships and \$845.50 in expenses which include the scholarship grants awarded in the spring semester to USI employees who are enrolled in credit coursework at USI.

Retirement Workshop: Jim attended one of the HR sponsored workshops for USI employees planning to retire, and was given time to explain to the attendees what our council does, and how we advocate for retirees. He asked an HR representative to invite someone from our council to attend these workshops when offered, to provide information to the attendees.

Bereavement Cards: Jim spoke with Chris Jines, former council member, learning Chris still has the bereavement cards that she purchased last year. She has continued to send

USI retiree

Funds to Augment the Library's Ability to Purchase Books Authored by USI: Michael spoke with Martha Niemeier, USI librarian, who assured him if the Council purchases copies of books authored by USI staff, those copies will be available to check out, not held on reserve. The group discussed the possibility of spotlighting books authored by USI staff by placing the books together, on a special bookshelf, perhaps a bookshelf purchased by the Retirees Council. Michael will check with Martha regarding this option.

Sponsored Activities: Linda led a discussion on the council-sponsored trip for retirees to the Falls of the Ohio State Park in Clarksville, TN. The admission fee into the park is \$9/person and with transportation provided, the group felt a \$20/person fee should cover all expenses of rented vans and entrance fees. If the vans leave USI at 8:30 a.m. the group would arrive in Jeffersonville at lunchtime. Sherriane mentioned three restaurants within walking distance of one another, allowing participants options to eat on their own before traveling on to the park. She volunteered to research information on the restaurants and Sara will investigate the procedure and cost for renting vans through USI. The Falls of the Ohio State Park trip will be held on October 10, 2017.

Wendy and Helen thoroughly enjoyed the visit and felt it would make an enjoyable trip for retirees. The facility, housed in a beautiful building, is a wonderful place to visit. The council will sponsor this trip in spring 2018 and will determine transportation options at a later meeting.

Sherriane reported on the New Harmony Theater Play/winery event discussed in previous meetings. The play, "The Little Creek Winery", will be showing at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, July 23rd. The Little Creek Winery, on the banks of the Ohio River, is a beautiful place to visit. If the Retirees Council commits to visit after the play, Yvonne mentioned the Raintree Brewery is open in the basement of Sara's home. She will contact the owner to ask if the brewmaster would provide a tour, and if so, instead of the winery. After discussion, the council members concluded it would be best to invite those interested in attending the play to purchase tickets on their own, and anyone who wishes to gather after the play at the designated destination can do so.

Sara Rhodes stated the Retiree Council newsletter is in the writing stage and will be sent to all retirees at the end of June. All events the council has planned for the year will be highlighted in the newsletter.

Annual Meeting Program: Sherriane, Yvonne, and Nancy

