

## USI Retirees Coordinating Council

Thursday, March 14, 2019  
USI Foundation Office, 3 p.m.

**Present:** Linda Cleek, John Deem, Craig Ehlen, Phil Fisher, Nils Johansen, Marlene Shaw and Sharon Burks-Maier, Foundation Liaison

**Absent:** Nancy Bizal, Shirley Bryan

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Nils Johansen at 3 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the January meeting were unanimously approved.

### REPORTS

**Treasurer's Report:** John Deem reported our fund balance was \$4,015.65 as of January 31, 2019. He will report on the total number of members at the next meeting. Since grants to USI employees taking credit courses haven't been given for the current semester, Nils will get the necessary information from John Baburnich and a drawing will be held at the earliest opportunity.

**President's Report:** Nils reported on the upcoming inauguration. David Bower joined us to give us details of the plans and to emphasize that all retirees are invited to attend and participate. He hasn't been able to get any new information on USI's health insurance as it affects retirees. Linda Cleek will investigate what is available on the USI website and report to the group.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Newsletter:** Marlene Shaw reported that many retirees have not received the recent issue of *Vintage Times*. She asked who manages the mailing list. Sharon Burks-Maier answered that HR manages the list but that she can send a spreadsheet of the list to us to review. Phil Fisher reminded us of the canvas of retirees for changes to mail/email addresses done a few years ago and suggested it might be time to redo it. All agreed that early summer would be a good time for this activity. The next issue is scheduled to come out in August.

### Retiree Events:

- Linda reported there has been a good response to the New Harmony Theatre performance of *Always, Patsy Cline* on Sunday, July 21. The reception will follow at the Schnee-Ribeye-Elliott House, offices of Historic New Harmony and just around the corner from Murphy Auditorium. On the subject of Murphy, Marlene pointed out that lack of handrails presents a problem for many people who, while not technically disabled, may be unsteady on their feet. Nils will consult with USI officials to raise the concern.
- There is considerable interest in a visit to the WNIN Public Media Center. Linda will work on finding available dates in September (after Labor Day) and arranging for a showing of *Two Elephants* with commentary by Erin Gibson.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Marlene mentioned that changes to tax law impacts charitable donations, and that some can be made directly from retirement savings. Craig Ehlen added that there can be advantages to

making two years' worth of gifts every other year. We agreed that asking David Bower to talk to us about these changes would be useful but didn't make firm plans.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Cleek, Secretary

**Next meeting: Thursday, May 9, 3 p.m., USI Foundation Office**