

## Minutes

### USI Retirees Coordinating Council Meeting Thursday, January 20, 2022 Griffin Center, 2 p.m.

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

**Foundation Liaison:** Maggie Carnahan

**Members Absent:** None

**Call to Order:** President Cindy Brinker called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. She welcomed all members, including new members to the Coordinating Council.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Tim Mahoney and seconded by Craig Ehlen to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2021, meeting with two amendments/corrections. Motion carried.

#### REPORTS

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

Beginning balance 7/1/2021	\$4,655.41
Receipts	\$1,320.00
66 membership fees	
Disbursements	\$ 500.00
Expenditures for five 2021 Fall Semester scholarships	
Ending balance 12/31/2021	\$5,475.41

John reported that \$75 was spent for the Staff Council Giving Tree last December but that the deadline for this donation was between Council meetings. With verbal approval from then President Marlene Shaw and President-elect Cindy Brinker, John donated \$75 for this project. Linda Tribble moved and Tim Mahoney seconded that the Coordinating Council reimburse John for this expenditure. Motion carried.

#### **President's Report:**

Cindy Brinker distributed a roster of Coordinating Council members and asked members to review their contact information. Several additions/corrections were made.

Cindy Brinker reported 38-40 retirees attended the USI Retirees Annual Meeting when the 10-year anniversary of the USI Retirees was celebrated. Nine of 11 past presidents and 17 charter members attended and were recognized. Cindy thanked Marlene Shaw for putting the event together; Marlene thanked Cindy for the PowerPoint presentation highlighting USI retirees. The video presentation and PowerPoint of the history of the organization are being uploaded to the Retirees web site.

Cindy has been working with Linda Cleek, Sherrienne Standley and Maggie Carnahan, as well as Creative and Print Services to refresh and modify the template to be used for the Vintage Times. The new look includes use of the standard USI colors, the USI logo and a new banner. The sample template was

distributed to Council members for review and comments. Cindy and Maggie will review the suggestions and meet with Creative and Print Services to refine the template. The next edition of Vintage Times will be mailed from the Foundation Office at the end of February. This edition will include:

- Highlights of the 10-year anniversary of the USI Retirees organization
- Yvonne Floyd "On the Runway in Milan"
- "The Screaming Eagle" sculpture
- New Retirees and In Memoriam
- Fall 2021 grant recipients
- Upcoming events

Cindy reported there are 32 new USI retirees since July 1, 2021. The group hopes to find ways to communicate with and involve these new retirees.

Cindy also reported that updates are being made to the USI Retirees web site. The plan is to include more photographs and ways to highlight the group and its activities.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The Foundation Lunch scheduled for February 5 was cancelled due to COVID concerns. David Bower communicated with Council members and it was decided it was not safe to gather for a large luncheon. The Turoni's 'not back to school' lunch also was cancelled because of health concerns.

An update was provided on the Wanda Hibbitts scholarship. At this time, \$2,019 has been collected from 17 couples and two individuals. Cindy thanked Craig Ehlen for suggesting this wonderful tribute to Dr. Hibbitts.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Cindy provided a draft of special events that could be considered USI Retirees in 2022:

- **Virtual tour via Zoom of the Minka Learning Lab for Living Well coordinated by Dr. Katie Ehlman and Dr. Lisa Fournier:** The idea of a possible partnership between USI Retirees and the Center for Healthy Aging and Wellness and Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program was discussed. There are many resources available on the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions web site that can be highlighted and are available to retirees. The Coordinating Council asked Cindy to contact Lisa Fournier about moving forward with a virtual tour of the Minka via Zoom in March and to discuss with her ways USI Retirees could partner with the Center for Healthy Aging.
- **Spring 2022 Foundation Lunch or pizza gathering:** It was decided that all such events be placed on hold until the COVID situation can be evaluated and controlled. Hopefully the pizza event can be resumed in August 2022.
- **Waters-Graham Gallery Exhibit:** Professor Emerita of Art Katie Waters and Professor Emeritus of English Matthew Graham will be exhibiting their work at Jasper Community Arts from May 5 through June 26 in Jasper. Cindy suggested a USI Retirees event, possibly in conjunction with the USI Alumni group in Dubois County, to visit the exhibit in June in a small group setting. Sandy Hatfield offered to work with Cindy on this event.

- **Tour of the Evansville Wartime Museum:** This event was a suggestion from a previous list of ideas for retiree events. The Museum offers private tours and was highly recommended by Council members who had previously visited the Museum. Craig Ehlen and Tim Mahoney will try to set up an event in September for USI Retirees.
- Other events include the annual reception with President Rochon in July and the pizza gathering in August.

Connie Schnarre suggested starting a Group Facebook page for USI Retirees to better communicate with members about events, USI news and obituaries. The USI Retirees Group Facebook page would only be accessible to USI retirees who have joined the group. There would be limitations how the page could be used such as not using the page as a marketplace or as a political forum. USI retirees could post personal information on the group page. The group asked Connie to proceed with the project.

Cindy will contact John Baburnich to obtain a list of potential scholarship candidates who are full-time, benefits eligible employees pursuing their first undergraduate or graduate degree. Four undergraduate scholarships and one graduate scholarship will be awarded randomly from the list provided.

The Summer/Fall 2022 Vintage Times was discussed. The major focus will be how USI retirees are 'giving back' to their communities in their retirement years.

John Deem and Cindy discussed problems encountered with receiving dues. Cindy spoke with Cindy Miller, Associate Bursar, about the possibility of using TouchNet to collect retiree dues through the USI Retiree web site using a credit or debit card. This system would make it easier for retirees to pay their dues and for the treasurer to obtain more accurate records. Another problem with dues is that there is no specified date when dues are due. John suggested it would be more convenient and efficient to use the University's fiscal year, July 1 through June 30. Tim Mahoney made a motion, seconded by Craig Ehlen that the USI Retirees group implement both of these options. Motion carried. Cindy will review the bylaws to see if a possible addition is needed to clarify the fiscal year. Any bylaw change would be presented at the Annual Meeting in November.

The deadline for corrections to the USI Retiree Directory is June 30, with distribution of the finalized directory on July 28, 2022.

It was decided that the August pizza gathering would be scheduled for August 16, 2022, at Turoni's on Main Street.

The next meeting of the Coordinating Council will be March 17, 2022, at 2 p.m., in the Griffin Center.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Tribble, Secretary