



RETIREES ASSOCIATION
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

ETSU Retirees Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Jack Rhoton. Members present: Norma McRae, Susan Burkey Charles Moore, Fred Tudiver, Cynthia Burnley, Don Gotterbarn, Jack Rhoton, Jeff Wardeska, Priscilla Ramsey and Bonnie Stanley and Tisha Harrison.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Minutes of the February 2021 meeting were approved after discussion as to ETSURA's position on kneeling for the National Anthem. Susan will revise the minutes and send out for approval. (This was done on April 6, 2021).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) **Executive Committee:** Jack Rhoton reported:

- Norma and Charles need to think about the committees they would like to serve on and let Jack know.
- Do we wish to return to in-person meeting? It was decided August would be a good month to start.
- It was noted the people who reside out of town got the newsletters late.
- It was also noted that the basketball coach has resigned.

b) **Membership Committees:** Cynthia Burnley reported

- There are 11 new lifetime memberships, 5 annual memberships and 3 renewals.
- Should emails continue to be sent to retirees to urge membership? It was felt that during the pandemic, names should not be taken off the list.
- It was also suggested that copies of the newsletter continue to be sent to non-members during this time

c) **Finance Committee**

- The fund balances are Retirees Assoc. \$3,818.81; Life Membership - \$25,252.55; Scholarship Endowment \$260,054.90 and Endowment Operating - \$12,453.68
- It was noted that when a person passes away, the money goes to Scholarship Endowment
- Does ETSURA have flexibility in spending Life Membership Funds? Tisha will check on this

d) Program Committee

- For the April Eat and Chat – Dr. Wayne Schubert will do a zoom presentation of “Evaluation and Paleobiology of Short Faced Bears.
- Hopefully Anita DeAngelos will be the Eat and Chat speaker for September. Keith Johnson, chair of Business & Technology was also suggested.
- Todd Barber, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will be the guest speaker for the ETSURA June 11th luncheon, beginning at 11:30 a.m. The title of his talk will be “Mars Expedition” and he will perform for us, play the piano and sing, prior to his talk. He has requested about an hour and a half for his talk and performance.
- The November Annual Meeting was discussed. If it is held at the Culp Center, the cost would be \$1,838 based on 80 people but would go down if a buffet is decided on. Dr. Robert Pack is the suggested speaker. ETSURA would have to work with Public Safety on parking. We will have to wait until closer to the date to see about social distancing. If there are 75 or less attending, the event could be held in the Tennessee Room.
- A possible tour of the Culp Center will hopefully take place in September. Jennifer Clements wants to accommodate ETSURA and Jack is waiting for a call back from her.

e) University/Community Service Committee: Jack reported

- Serving at Second Harvest is still on hold for volunteers and they are using paid employees to get the food boxes out.
- Tisha stated that volunteers are needed on April 16th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. to assist at the Opening of Common Area between Lamb Hall and the dorms – activities will include checking temperatures and asking 5 question about COVID, basketball shooting, horse shoe toss, corn hole. Volunteers will also be needed to assist with sanitizing sports equipment. Food will be provided. Let Tisha know if interested in volunteering.
- Tisha will also send out to the entire membership information about Dr. David Ryan’s request for participants in a speech and noise test and there will be a \$20.00 compensation.

f) Liaison Committee – Priscilla reported

- The Resolution to support students’ activities for equity and inclusion was passed the Faculty Senate
- Mike Hoff gave a presentation on the progress of sub-committees working on the Committee 125
- The provost search is processing over 100 candidates and will be narrowed down to the top 4. Interviews will begin in early April.

- COVID vaccines will not be required of incoming students this fall but will be available on campus

The next ETSURA Meeting will be April 27, 2021 via Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.
Susan Burkey, Recording Secretary