



**EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

Box 70564, ETSU, Johnson City, TN 37614-1707 (423) 439-5890

**RETIREES ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 25, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER: President Ken Mijeski called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The following members were present: Susan Campbell, Bill Fisher, Tod Jablonski, Charles Moore, Jerry Rust, Phyllis Taylor, Priscilla Ramsey, Ethel Garrity, Ted Hughes, and Rachel Henry. Diana McClay represented the Human Resources' staff.

The meeting opened with a Proclamation of Appreciation presented to Bill Fisher from the Retirees Association of the Universities Represented in the Tennessee Higher Education Retirees Association.

Ken announced the Executive Committee and their committee responsibilities as follows: Ethel Garrity, President-Elect and Chair of the Program Committee; Charles Moore, Treasurer and Chair of the Finance Committee; Bobbie Lewis, Past President; Rachel Henry, Secretary and Ken (himself) Mijeski, President.

At the Executive Board Meeting the committee chairs were discussed. Jerry Rust prefers not to continue as chair of the Membership Committee. Priscilla Ramsey said she would chair the Membership Committee. Phyllis Taylor, who has been serving as the Chair of the Communication Committee has requested to serve on this committee but not to continue as the chair of the Communication Committee. Mike Miyamoto will be asked to serve as Chair of the Communication Committee. Bobbie Lewis volunteered to chair the University/Community Service Committee. William Fisher will remain Chair of the Liaison Committee.

The Staff Senate is now sharing the conference room with ETSURA in the Center Building per Dr. Bishop.

Discussion was held regarding the Association of Retirement Organization in Higher Education (AROHE). The annual dues to belong to this organization are \$120. A discussion regarding the question "Is it worth joining and what the advantages of joining are?" was held. The membership year is July 1 to June 30 each year. Bill Fisher said he feels joining would be useful. Susan Campbell moved that we join effective July 1, 2014, seconded by Ethel Garrity. The motion passed. The next annual meeting of the AROHE will be fall of 2016.

Diana McClay announced that there is a new training manager, Marla Hayman, who is willing to provide retirement training if ETSURA would be willing to sponsor the retirement training sessions for current and retired employees. Rich Ashley last provided this training in 2008 and 2009. This training would be held on the ETSU campus and on the VA campus on different days and times. It was determined that the retirement training sessions will be sponsored by the ETSURA.

The subject of our membership dues was discussed. It was the opinion of the Executive Board that the membership dues be increased. Our current dues are \$5 per member and \$10 for a member and their spouse. After some discussion, Priscilla Ramsey moved to increase the ETSURA annual dues to \$10 per person effective for the 2015 year. The motion was seconded by Tod Jablonski and passed by vote of the ETSURA Board.

Discussion was held regarding our annual luncheon meeting. Don Carter has been helpful in obtaining financial assistance enabling us to keep the cost of the luncheon low. Don Carter will remain on the Program Committee. Ken Mijeski has contacted Jeff Anderson's office requesting continued financial assistance for our annual meeting luncheon. Ken is awaiting a reply. Further options regarding our annual luncheon meeting were discussed. Ken Mijeski distributed information from the Johnson City Country Club for consideration and comparison. The Program Chair will report when further details are available.

Due to weather conditions our February meeting was cancelled. Ethel Garrity has set the date of Friday, June 13, 2014, for the ETSURA annual picnic.

There is no Communication Committee report at this time.

The deadline for our next newsletter is March 4th. This annual newsletter goes to all retirees. This is the newsletter attempting to increase our membership. This newsletter will announce the dues increase encouraging our retirees to join prior to the dues increase. Our current membership is 317.

Charles gave the Finance Committee report.

The Program Committee report was given by our President-Elect, Ethel Garrity. The next Eat and Chat will be Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at the Golden Corral Restaurant. Charles Moore had suggested we consider meeting at the Johnson City Public Library when Fred Sauceman would be conducting a program. This program will be April 9. A motion was made by Ethel Garrity that Charles Moore write an article about Fred Sauceman's program inviting the ETSURA members to attend and include this article in the next retirees' newsletter. The motion was seconded by Ted Hughes and carried.

Ted Hughes moved to accept the minutes from the November 26, 2013, meeting. Bill Fisher seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ted Hughes suggested that we look into Shoney's as a possible meeting place with the meeting beginning at 10:30 a.m. Shoney's has been having a breakfast special for \$5. Ethel Garrity will go with him and they will investigate this possibility and report back.

Bill Fisher reported for the Liaison Committee. He told of a 2% teacher raise and a 1% state raise but no increase for higher education is planned. The Tennessee Consolidating information newsletter was complicated. He reported briefly from the Kiplinger Retirement News Letter. He reported from the Tennessee Journal that 'Eleven months after Gov. Bill Haslam announced he would pursue a 'Tennessee plan' for Medicaid expansion, no plan is in sight...'

The Faculty Senate has been meeting each month. Bill Fisher has been attending and he is requesting that someone else from the Board attend. Ken Mijeski will contact Tod Jablonski asking him if he will attend the Faculty Senate Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Rachel Henry, Secretary