



RETIREES ASSOCIATION
EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

ETSU Retirees Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Mike Miyamoto. Members present: Gail Burlison, Priscilla Ramsey, Judith Story, Jeff Wardeska, Jack Rhoton, Susan Burkey, John Hancock, Don Carter, Mike Miyamoto, Fred Tudiver and Dave Kalwinsky. Members absent – Louis Modica and Dale Schmitt. Tisha Harrison and Tammy Decker represented the Office of Administration.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Judith Story moved to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2018 meeting. Seconded and carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee:

- Mike expressed thanks to Jeff Wardeska for presiding at the September meeting.
- The plaque for Diana was circulated. Mike decided to get a solid wood one for \$10.00 more and he will pick up the difference.
- An appreciation card was circulated for everyone to sign.
- As of this meeting, \$425 has been donated with 3 people donating \$50 each. This would leave an extra \$75.00, which Mike stated he would return \$25.00 to those who donated \$50.00
- Mike also stated he had purchased a hand-made mahogany pen for \$135.00 as a gift for Dr. Colvett
- He also picked up 2 First-aid Kits and 2 Digital Thermometers for the medical aspect of the door prizes. He will donate these to ETSURA so we can say all prizes have been donated.
- Mike has emailed Terry Counterline about the entertainment. They will play for 20 min.(changed to 15 min.). Mike and Don will visit the Country Club to check on space – the band will probably be situated to the side, as there is no room up front. A check needs to be issued to “Habitat for Humanity” with “from Jonesborough Novelty Band” on the memo line.
- Mike emailed Kyle Colvett about details. He will arrive early to check out everything. He needs a projector and computer to be set up.
- Mack P. Davis scholarships – About 4 years ago when Ken Mijeski was president, he proposed raising each scholarship award from \$500 to \$1,000 per year. The reason was, with increased tuition, we wanted to make a bigger impact on each student, even though it would mean fewer awards. The answer at that time was “it would take an act of Congress.” Recently, Tisha stated we could raise the amount. Mike’s reasons for re-proposing the idea is a) \$500.00 is a small amount in a student’s budget and \$1,000 would

make ETSURA a bigger part of each awardee's life and bring some loyalty; b) Tisha said no senior students will be attending the Annual Meeting. There may be legitimate reasons for not attending, but attending class at lunch doesn't seem to cut it; c) Mike feels that giving fewer larger awards would make them more loyal to us and more connected; d) If we institute this, in lieu of the plan passed at the September meeting, we would start 2019 with \$1,000 per year to students entering their freshman year, while maintaining the \$500.00 per year to everyone else. We would stipulate the awardees are expected to attend the Annual Meeting in their senior year. Mike urged member to consider this and a decision will be made at the November meeting.

Membership/Communications: Judith Story reported

- Board nominations – there are 4 names of candidates for ETSURA Board positions: Dr. Cynthia Burnley, Dr. Scott Champney, Dr. Donald Gotterbarn and Dr. Chu-Ngi Ho She also stated that Dale Schmitt will go off the board for health reasons and that Scott Champney is not an ETSURA member. The list of candidates will appear in the program, nominations can be received from the floor and the list can be approved by acclamation.
- The current ETSURA membership is 325.
- Dave said he is getting about 30 emails returned from the 200 that go out. We need to have a way to find out current information. It was suggested to have a list at the Annual Meeting and have everyone check their information. Tisha will put a list together and have members check it as they pick up their name tags.

Finance Committee: The Financial Statement was distributed to members. Gail Burleson stated there appears to be money to cover the Annual Meeting and ETSURA is in good shape financially.

Program Committee: Don Carter reported

- The banner from ECU needs to be displayed at the annual meeting– Tisha will get the banner.
- Don will check out space limitations at the Country Club. Terry Countermine went out on the 26th to check things out. The serving line will start at 11:15 with guests going first. Jerry Gehre will do the invocation; Jeremy Ross will be given 10 min. to speak and Kyle Colvett will be given 30 min. at most.
- Drawing for Door Prizes – it was suggested to limit the number to 5. The departments of Athletics, Alumni and Foundation should be acknowledged for providing prizes. The Bookstore was not cooperative. Remaining door prizes can be used for the summer luncheon. Table favors will be note pads and coasters. It was suggested to keep each speaker to 5 min. The table decorations will be provided by ETSU and ECU and will be awarded to one person at each table.
- Eat & Chat – Tour of Building 60 was suggested. The program committee for 2019 can decide the agenda

Liaison Committee: Priscilla Ramsey reported:

There was no meeting in October. She did state she had toured Building 60 and Faculty Senate meets there.

Mike stated that newly elected board members will be invited to the November meeting.

Dave stated he needs an updated membership list – no new emails since January have been received.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Susan Burkey

Recording Secretary