



RETIREE ASSOCIATION

**UNM Retiree Association Annual Meeting
Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Zoom
Agenda & Minutes**

Members Present: Tim Backes, Steve Borbas, Breda Bova, Mike Dougher, Leslie Easom, Dub Karnes-Padilla, Beverly Kloeppel, Kevin Malloy, Fred Rose, Joyce Szabo, John Trotter and Connie Vance

Absent: Jerry White

Meeting called to order at 1:31 p.m.

I. Introductions

- Board Members and Officers
 - Bev introduced the Board Members
 - 2019 Annual Meeting minutes reviewed, minutes were unanimously approved.
 - Bev introduced Provost James Holloway.

II. Speaker: UNM Provost James Holloway

- Fall Semester Planning during COVID-19 Pandemic
 - Provost Holloway discussed UNM's managing of the pandemic for the remainder of the Spring semester by reducing contact to reduce spread of the disease. HSC was responding by preparing the hospital to set-up new spaces to serve as make shift ICU spaces if needed with contingency plans of turning Johnson Center into a hospital annex if necessary. The academic side left two thousand in Albuquerque out of thirty thousand students across all campus. Between March 1 – April 1, 2020, four thousand courses were moved to remote learning. This allowed students to complete the term and students to graduate. During this time, UNM was able to reach out to student to find out their needs. UNM was able to loan out 135 laptops and were able to mail them to other states as well as providing several hundred mini-grants to students to purchase laptops as well as wi-fi hotspots. New systems that were set-up was early warning systems for faculty and students to provide student challenges to advisors, real-time tracking of how many students were dropping classes to help them remained engaged, credit/no-credit grading, extending student deadlines, as well as serving the community by printing 3-D masks for the Navajo Nation.
 - Provost Holloway presented UNM's plan for fall semester 2020 with a hybrid learning schedule of remote classes as well as approximately 30% occupancy to allow social distancing. It is critical to bring students in to let them connect with the institution such as studios and laboratories.
 - Provost Holloway answered various questions from the retiree association members.

III. Annual Report – Bev Kloeppe, President

- Bev highlighted several accomplishments of the board
 - Increased collaboration with Human Resources, which now includes administrative support for the association board. This also includes listserv clean-up and membership tracking with consolidating lists and association materials are being presented to staff when they retire.
 - A \$250 scholarship was established to help students with costs and fees.
 - Several programs were provided as well as a holiday open house.
 - Short legislative sessions which mostly focused on PERA. The legislative committee worked to educate legislators on the importance of the ERB retirement and its importance of recruitment and retention of the state's educators.
 - Joyce Szabo was elected to serve on the nation board of AROHE, Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education.
 - Kevin Malloy made multiple updates to the website.

IV. Financial Report - Jerry White, Treasurer

- Began fiscal year with \$21,582.00 in combined Banner and US Bank Accounts. In May of 2020, the combined accounts stand at \$22,171.00. This is a net revenue gain of \$2,933.00.
- Total membership declined by 55. This includes deceased members as well as members with inactive email accounts returned mailings. This left a total of 1,047. Total active paid membership is 723, which has increased 148 over the last year.
- Motion to approve report was unanimously approved

V. Bylaw change proposal – Bev Kloeppe

- The proposal to change one word, which is the classification of membership in the way the by-laws are worded which states that anybody who retires is a member of the Retiree Association. This does not distinguish between members who join and those who pay dues. The proposal is to add the word eligible to those who are eligible to join because they are retirees from the university.
- Motion to approve proposal was unanimously approved.

VI. Election of Nominees for Board of Directors – Bev Kloeppe

- Motion to reelect Joyce Szabo and elect Les McFadden was unanimously approved.
- Bev asked for nominations for Treasurer.

VII. Committee Reports:

- **Membership/Communication Report - Mike Dougher & Kevin Malloy**
 - Mike let the association know how HR is helping with membership lists. Information is being sent out regarding the association to faculty and staff retirees.
 - Kevin updated the association on the revamp of the website. He encourages members to view emails that go out on the listserv as well as the email. Kevin also asked for volunteers to help with social media.
- **Legislative - Dub Karnes-Padilla & Breda Bova**
 - Dub thanked the association's legislative committee for attending all the multiple meetings which included ERB, IPOC and Legislative session.

- Legislative short session ended February 20, 2020. A month later the budget was changed due to oil and minerals as well as COVID.
 - The special session ended today. The committee was hopeful that with the raise's teachers and educators in higher education were receiving would help the ERB due to the money being put into it along with the recruitment of teachers. This is now uncertain and affects the ERB. In the past, the committee was active in protecting COLA and defined benefit plan sustainable for future retirees. This was done by building coalitions with different associations such as American Federation of Teachers of NM Retirees, NM Associations of Educational Retirees and constantly urged them to have educators protect COLA as well as benefits due to the discrepancy with PERA.
 - The committee also sent out daily/weekly updates on the listserv for updates on the legislative session.
- **Benefits - Leslie Easom**
 - Leslie stated the mission of the Benefits Committee is to maintain a liaison with appropriate UNM offices to assure retiree interests and concerns are considered in the university's decisions regarding retiree benefits.
 - Medical benefits are an area that is focused on. There are two groups within the retiree association which are Pre-65 benefits which are monitored thru the Faculty Staff Benefits Committee, which has a retiree appointee, with open enrollment ending in May 2020 with a 4.9% increase in premiums with no plan changes. Post-65 retiree benefits which is monitored thru retiree healthcare working group representatives, the open enrollment was held in October 2019.
 - Human Resources is working on a policy to extend dependent healthcare benefits to disabled individuals over the age of 26. This will need to be taken care of by August 7, 2020.
 - Long-term care insurance premiums thru UNM have had four increased in the last four years which have totaled 7%.
 - VEBA plan documents will be reviewed by VEBA committee this year and any revisions should be completed by the end of the year. The Benefits committee will try to develop a strategy and have an individual provide input.
 - **Programs - Joyce Szabo**
 - Joyce mentioned AROHE is an international association, although, the international status is not indicated.
 - There was a wide range of programs this year except for March – June 2020 due to COVID. From June 2019 – February 2022 included trips to the Natural History Museum, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Social Coffee hours, Bio Park, tours of UNM Main Campus, Annual holiday party, tour of Marble Brewery and Albuquerque Museum tour of Jim Henson's exhibit.
 - Joyce asked for ideas or recommendations for future programs.

Motion made to adjourn meeting. Motion unanimously approved.