

Harper College Annuitants Association Notes

November 8, 2018

ATTENDEES: Steve Catlin, Linda Frank, Kathy Hanahan, Betty Hull, Diane Kinn, Judy Longmore, Sharon Martin, Michael Nejman, Susan Overland, Jeanne Pankanin, Hazel Rilki and Pat Wenthold

The meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

NOTES – The Notes from the September 20, 2018 HCAA Executive Board Meeting and the Notes from the HCAA Annual Meeting were approved. Michael asked Judy to forward them to Judi Z for posting on our website. Michael thanked both Linda Frank and Kathy Hanahan for taking the notes in Judy's absence.

Michael wanted to thank Linda Kolbusz for her time and effort organizing the advertising for the Harper College Referendum. She spent many hours contacting people and distributing yard signs right up to November 6th. We all thank her for representing HCAA and once again doing an outstanding job.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Sharon Martin submitted the Treasurer's Report for November 8, 2018 with a balance of \$5,643.62. SUAA made 2 deposits (2 months) for \$317.96 and 3 registrations for \$188 were paid for Michael, Linda Frank and Pat attending the SUAA meeting in Normal, Illinois.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Hazel reported that on the SUAA September 2018 report that our chapter had 295 members. There was discussion on ways to increase our membership such as a letter to active employees explaining the value of joining HCAA before they retire even though they can join as an active worker. Another suggestion was to do a seminar through HR with a panel explaining what HCAA is all about and the value of joining. This has been done in the past and the members present felt that this was an excellent means of presenting the advantages of being a HCAA member. Linda Frank presented a flyer outlining a SUAA Spirit 2018-2019 Membership Contest as a way to increase chapter activities and with the goal of increasing chapter memberships.

SOCIAL REPORT - Diane reported that she did not receive any interest in forming a book club so that has been put on a back burner at this time. The Harper Theatre Company is presenting the Follies: "Friends of Harper" Theatre Reception on November 9th. The final weekend is November 16-18 at the Performing Arts Center. Tickets for Harper Faculty/Staff are \$15. Various other venues were shared with the possibility of presenting activities for the Annuitants to attend. Nothing was decided at this time. Diane did report that Jaci was injured in a fall and that they have not been able to meet or plan at this time.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Sue Overland presented a report of the results of the 2018 mid-term election. She noted that JB Pritzker was elected as Governor of Illinois. His position on state pensions in the past has been that they can not be altered and the “debt” is a financial obligation that you have to pay”. One of his plans outlined a progressive income tax that he states would open up monies that could be used to pay toward pensions. His stance on Healthcare has been to expand government options, not cancel them. Although he has not directly addressed state retiree plans, his “Illinois Cares” proposal outlines several public health insurance options.

The same sentiment on using a progressive income tax to reduce the burden on Illinois families and generate money to pay toward the monies owed the pension system was echoed by newly elected democratic senator Ann Gillespie (D) who beat the republican incumbent, Tom Rooney in the 27th District (Harper’s District).

Also, Harper’s “180 million” referendum was approved which will be used to enhance the facilities.

SUAA FALL MEETING REPORT (October 30 in Normal, IL) – Linda Frank, Michael and Pat attended the meeting. Linda reported that student enrollment across Illinois for community colleges is 277,038 and that Harper is #1 in the nation for community college students completing bachelor degrees. There was discussion about current college issues regarding Home insecurity (homelessness) and Food insecurity (students with limited access to nourishment). These concerns are especially evident at community colleges where Spoon River Community College for example , has a designated safe parking area where students can sleep in their cars during the day. Linda spoke about the students that come into Student Development hungry and that they provide some nourishment for them. There is a student club on campus, Hawks Care, that addresses this issue.

Due to a liability issue, it was proposed that current chapter “directors” now be referred to as “delegates.” This seems to be a semantic revision that should not effect chapter representation. This proposal will be shared at the June 2019 SUAA meeting.

Pat spoke about the confidentiality issue at SUAA where a proposed legislative platform was released prior to the Executive Committee meeting which was a breach of confidentiality.

NEW BUSINESS – one of our members asked if we could get a list of addressees, phone numbers, emails of the board members. If you want to provide this information, please send it directly to me at Judy.longmore@gmail.com and I will make a list and share it with you.

NEXT MEETING – February 7, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Longmore