

Houston Baptist University  
Retirees' Association  
February 21st, 2014, 11:30 am

The February 2014 luncheon meeting was held in Dillon Center, Hinton Building. It was called to order by Chair, Mary Ellen Spore. She welcomed everyone including two prospective members, Eloise Hughes and Linda Brupbacher. Becky Greer led us in a word of prayer, followed by a lovely luncheon. The Chair thanked Candace Desrosiers for all her great planning. After the luncheon, the membership was encouraged to go to Belin Chapel to hear Dr. John Yarrington and "The King's Men." Ruth Ann Williamson introduced Dr. John Yarrington and the nine young men known as "The King's Men." The program was so wonderful. A donation will be made to the Music Department for their use.

**Old Business:**

Mary Ellen distributed the minutes and agenda. The Chair reported that due to the sizable cash reserve built up by the Association, the Administrative Board has decided to use part of this reserve (\$2,000) to fund a project that will benefit the students of the University. The Chair reported that the decision was made at the Board Meeting in August, 2013, to support the Academic Success Center for this school year. Ms. Megan Mueller, Director of the ASC, will give a report at the April meeting. Mary Ellen then read a letter from Ms. Mueller outlining her thanks to our organization and the progress of the ASC over the last few months.

**New Business:**

The Retirees' Association has been asked if it would like to purchase a table at the University Celebration Dinner, May 2nd. It would help in recruiting new members and giving us exposure as a support group for the University. The cost for a table of 10 is \$120.00. Dr. Harold Raley made the motion to accept purchase of a table and it was seconded by Dr. Don Byrnes.

Every two years the Association elects new officers. Mary Ellen Spore appointed a Nominating Committee at the January board meeting. The members are: Daton Dodson (chair), Ruth Ann Williamson, Harold Raley and Shari Wescott. The new slate of officers will be voted on at the April meeting.

**Officer Reports:**

*Assistant Chair*, Ruth Ann Williamson, reported on the plans for this year's programs. Bill Balleza, Channel 2 News Anchor, will speak at the Spring program. Mary Ellen thanked her for all her hard work obtaining such great programs.

*Secretary*, Becky Greer, had the minutes distributed. Dr. Jon Suter made the motion to accept the minutes as read and Dr. Steve Wentland seconded. The motion was approved.

*Treasurer*, Ken Rogers, reported that there was \$962.73 in the University account and \$4,855.85 in the Retirees' Account. Ken stated that the \$2,000.00 donation to the Academic Success Center had been transferred to their account. Mr. Rogers thanked Loree Watson and her team for all the help in gathering the information for his report.

*Historian*, Ed Best, reported that the Retirees Association minutes and paperwork were housed in the Library.

*Hospitality Officer*, Ann Owen, was not in attendance. Mary Ellen Spore announced that Kathleen Strom was in ill health and a card had been sent to her. There was also a card sent to Mr. Parker's wife due to her health. Please let Ann or the Board know if anyone is ill so we can send a card.

*Membership Officer*, Shari Wescott, reported that the directory was available at the meeting and asked for any corrections. We have a new member, Hutch Dvorak. We are so glad to see him.

*Representative-at-large*, Dr. Jon Suter, was not in attendance but Mrs. Spore reported that the next book club meeting for retirees will be Thursday, February 27th, at 11:30 am. In the Parlor of the Lake House. The book selection is "Caleb's Crossing", a novel by Geraldine Brooks. You can bring your lunch. Please come if you can to any of the meetings. Don't forget the book club. Thank you again for your attendance.

#### *Announcements:*

Candace Desrosiers announced that 46% of the students who come to campus to view, end up enrolling for classes. Also there are many lectures and things of interest occurring at the University. If you want information about any of them please go on-line to the University's website. Most of the events do not have an admission price. Mary Ellen thanked Candace for her quick solving of a problem finding a performance place for "The King's Men" today. Don't forget to pay for next year's dues at the April meeting. The cost for one is \$10.00 and the cost for a couple is \$15.00.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Becky Greer