

Northwest Retiree Association Board

Spring Meeting

May 18, 2021

Hybrid Meeting in the Conference Room at the Alumni House and Zoom Meeting 2-3 pm

Attendance: Jim, Brenda, Jolaine at the Alumni conference room, Ray and Rosalie online through Zoom.

Jim opened the meeting by apologizing for the lack of response over the past 5 months. He/we need to share thoughts about where are we going and ask are we ready to start having some activities and elections now that Covid19 Pandemic seems to be winding down? We need the thoughts of the board members on how to move forward. Even though we are mostly all vaccinated, it is still possible to contract the virus so some caution is still needed.

Agenda:

1. Time for another informational letter out to the membership to let them know we still exist and to share items to get feedback from membership on:
 - Nomination and election of new officers
 1. How should we go about this? When should this be done? According to the by-laws, elections are held in May and the new officers take over in July. Jolaine said we could set it up online. Take nominations online and then we could even vote online.
 - Starting up 2nd Friday of the month at the Pub
 1. Maybe do June as a virtual meeting online through Zoom
 2. Maybe back to live at the Pub in September?
 3. Jim is very interested in doing more educational events for the association. Again how and when?
 - Possible pot luck picnic at the Ray Courter Pavilion in July or early August
 1. Brenda and Lori Steiner said we could ask to use the Pavilion.
 2. Brenda will check on the parameters of use.
 3. We would want a couple of grills. The association can provide the meat; burgers and brats and hotdogs and buns. Members would bring the sides and desserts to share.
 4. Jim suggested we could have elections at this point
 - If not the above activities, then concretely look forward to the Holiday Coffee gathering in December. Brenda said the University has not talked about this yet.
 - Both Ray and Rosalie's input is to proceed with caution. We should still do things online for a while longer. If we do any live activity it needs to be outdoors.

2. Need to get invitation out to last years and this year's retirees to join the association.
 - New email accounts have been requested. There are 4 maybe 5 new email account requests. Jolaine forwarded these to Tim Carlyle to start the process.
 - Staff and faculty who retire, lose their email account immediately after their last day. Our organization should get information out at least a month before retirement date.
 - Brenda reported we have 5 new members since December with new retirees signing up online. (Brenda, did you acknowledge their acceptance and welcome them?)
 - Jolaine found the old invitation letter to send out to the new retirees. She will update and prepare to send this out to all those retired in 2020 and so far in 2021.
3. Dues:
 - Jim explained how dues were suspended for the 2020-2021 year of membership.
 - Should we suspend again or should we say it would be important to pay dues this year to help us get back up, active, and planning for the future after the pandemic?
 - The consensus is to pay dues this year.
4. Newsletter. – Jolaine will work on getting the May 2021 edition ready to mail out. If you have any ideas for longer stories to be included let Jolaine know.

Generally, the end of the meeting consensus is that Jim will prepare a letter to send out to the membership. It will be such as to get feedback from the members to see how many are feeling comfortable enough to start doing activities again. We will then slowly figure out how to get nominations for officers and have elections sometime in the near future. Jolaine will get letters out to the newly retired.

If any of the board members absent for this meeting have any ideas or comments please let us know.

Submitted by
Jolaine Zweifel