

Harper College Annuitants Association

Notes – February 7, 2018

ATTENDEES: Jaci Carroll, Linda Frank, Kathy Hanahan, Bonnie Henry, Diane Kinn, Judy Longmore, Fredia Martin, Sharon Martin, Jeanne Pankanin, Hazel Rilki, Cheryl Turnauer and Michael Nejman and Pat Wenthold

NOTES – The Notes from the November 6, 2018 meeting were accepted with a change to the spelling of Jaci Carroll's first name.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Michael announced that Julie Hennig would be resigning her position as Treasurer of the Harper College Annuitant's Association due to her move to Tennessee. Michael thanked her for her years of service and wished her well in her new move. At that point he asked for any nominations for the Treasurer's position and Sharon Martin's name was brought forth. A vote was taken and Sharon was accepted as the new HCAA Treasurer effective immediately. Michael will be working with the bank and Sharon to get the paperwork approved.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Hazel announced that our HCAA membership as of November 2017 is 294. There are 32 past members who need to be reminded to sign up. It was decided to get in touch with these members and remind them to sign up or find out where they have not signed up. Michael, Jaci and Hazel have volunteered for this duty.

Hazel recommended that we don't do a HCAA membership table at the All Staff meeting at the beginning of each semester as only 3 people stopped at the Spring table. It was agreed that was a very busy time for staff and faculty and that it would be better to do this at other events throughout the year. It was recommended to have a booth at the April 14th reunion event displaying the blue HCAA banner; Michael will arrange for a table. There was also discussion to have a small size card with the MYHCAA website to advertise our association at the April 14 event and to stress the importance and purpose of our association.

SOCIAL REPORT – Jeanne announced that the December 11th event at Dirty Nellie's (Fake News: Fact or Fiction) had a good turnout. Those attending enjoyed lunch and a very interesting discussion led by Professor John Garcia.

The next event for Spring will be a visit to the Holocaust Museum in Skokie on Saturday, March 31, 2018. There will be several programs scheduled that day including an architectural tour, Holocaust survival tour and a special exhibit. People will meet at Harper around 9:30am and return around 3:30pm. As Jeanne will be in Mexico at that time, Diane Kinn will be in touch regarding carpooling and any other details.

Bonnie suggested an event for Summer with a subject of "How the New Tax Law Affect You for the 2018 Tax Season". The group felt that this would be an excellent topic. There was discussion on who would be the speaker and Bonnie asked for suggestions. Frieda volunteered to check with the Advisory Board and Rich Hohhol for availability. Bonnie emphasized that this would cover the 2018 tax season.

Jeanne announced that she would be stepping down from being the organizer for HCAA events and said that it has been a labor of love for 12 years of her retirement, but it's time to move on to other things. She would help the new person with the takeover and Diane Kinn would be a great resource for the new person. At this point no one has volunteered.

Jeanne shared a report outlining the usage pattern on our MYHCAA Website that Judi Zaplatynsky prepared for us with data from 2012. Some of the observations were that since our newsletter went quarterly in Winter 2016-2017 the hits have declined 50%. We get a lot of hits the day the newsletter comes out and on Thursdays with the

Home Page being the most viewed. Jeanne informed Bonnie that the photos most viewed were of the retirees in Florida. We have had 17,000 hits since the beginning of the website. Jeanne thanked Judi Z for preparing this report for us.

A question was asked of Bonnie if there were any changes in our insurance and Bonnie said "NO" that we were good for this year.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Frieda reported on several bills before the Illinois State House. One that was emphasized was H.B. 4371. The explanation of the Bill can be found on the SUAA website. Bonnie shared that this Bill was a SUAA proposal and the words for this bill were developed by SUAA. SUAA found a legislator (Robert Martwick) to submit it as a Bill. It has received a great deal of negative criticism and is now believed to be in committee. SUAA has gotten a lot publicity for backing this Bill.

Bonnie announced that if you are not receiving emails from SUAA they must not have your correct email address. Check with Hazel for verification of your email address.

It was emphasized that the March 20th election is approaching and to make sure that you are up to date with voting regulations. Michael stressed that when we meet with any legislators that we have one person from that legislator' district present.

There was be a symposium sponsored by the League of Women Voters on February 24, 2018 from 9:00am-12:00pm for candidates of the 6th Congressional District at the Wojcik Center.

Pat Wenthold as the regional representative for the SUAA Executive Committee, reported on two major issues: The Pension Bonding Bill and a Plank in the Legislative Platform. SUAA is supporting the Pension Bonding Bill which SUAA feels could be successful and states that it has been written with the cooperation of a professor of mathematics at University of Illinois. There seems to be opposition to the Bill from various organizations such as BGA and the Civic Federation. The general feeling is that it will not go forward.

The Director of SUAA and some members of the Executive Board want to introduce a Plank in the Legislative Platform supporting having all pensions of Illinois residents subject to Illinois taxation. This would include both private and public pensions. SUAA Director and some Board members feel that eventually this will happen and they want to be involved in the process. This proposal was voted down at the Fall meeting but there is discussion having it brought forth again at the fall meeting. Pat stressed that SUAA is there to protect our pensions and our membership interest and SUAA should not be formally endorsing it.

HARPER COLLEGE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION UPDATE – Michael reported that plans for the 50th Anniversary Celebration are on schedule starting at 1:00 PM in Building A on Saturday, April 14. A formal invitation will be sent out soon. Joellen Freeding has agreed to be a greeter at the celebration. Michael asked for a couple more people to help greet and direct people at the event. Jeanne recommended Diane Kinn and Jaci Carroll and Judy L. also volunteered. Volunteers need to be there by 12:30pm.

Harper now has new Parking Stickers. The old hang tags will no longer be honored. New parking stickers can be picked up at HCPD or can be mailed to you by emailing police@harpercollege.edu. Please know the license plate number, make and name of your vehicle when you apply.

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, March 29, at 10:00am in A-315.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Longmore