

# Harper College Annuitants Association Notes

June, 20, 2019

**ATTENDEES:** Linda Frank, Kathy Hanahan, Betty Hull, Diane Kinn, Linda Kolbusz-Kosan, Judy Longmore, Sharon Martin, Russ Mills, Michael Nejman, Hazel Rilki and Pat Wenthold

The meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

**RECEIPT OF NOTES** – Michael presented the Notes of April 11, 2019, for approval. They were approved with no changes and will appear on the HCAA Website.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Sharon Martin submitted the Treasurer's Report dated June 20, 2019 showing a balance as of May 20, 2019 of \$6,221.22.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** – Hazel reported that presently our chapter has 289 members according to State records. Michael emphasized the need to recruit current employees at Harper and present them with the HCAA informational membership cards outlining the benefits of being a HCAA member. Hazel and Kathy are setting up an information table at the Employee Luncheon following our meeting targeting current employees. Hazel has a list of past members who did not re-register which Michael and Kathy will look over. Hazel met with members of the Physical Plant who were concerned that the State Constitution could change or alter their pension. She emphasized that this is one of HCAA goals to keep the members informed of any proposed changes to State law and have active communication with legislators on relevant concerns.

**SOCIAL REPORT** – Diane reported that there was a small group at the Pinot Palette at the Arboretum South Barrington on May 4<sup>th</sup> but it was a fun and enjoyable event for those attending. Also, the luncheon at Anna's Apple Restaurant in Palatine proved to be a good meeting place and the food was good!

Ravinia tickets are available for annuitants, your family and friends. See Diane's email dated June 11, 2019 for more details. You can call or text Diane Kinn or Jaci Carroll to reserve seats.

Diane Kinn ([dianemkinn@gmail.com](mailto:dianemkinn@gmail.com)) – 708-212-5792

Jaci Carroll ([jaci6820@yahoo.com](mailto:jaci6820@yahoo.com)) – 847-892-4203

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT** – Linda Frank presented the June 2019 Legislative Report along with committee members Linda Kolbusz-Kosan, Michael Nejman and Steve Catlin

## Goals for 2019:

- Stay informed of news related to pension and health care for retirees.
- Observe Governor Pritzker's approach to state issues.
- Meet with local officials, especially those who are newly elected, to share information about the HCAA organization.

## News at State Level:

- The state lawmakers concluded their spring session by passing a \$40 billion budget and a \$45 billion capital construction plan.
- A bill to repeal the 3% language passed, restoring the threshold on pensionable salary to 6% for members of TRS and SURS.

- The new budget raises higher education funding by \$154 million which is an 8.2% increase. This is the largest increase for higher education since 1990 according to IBHE.
  - Community colleges will receive a 12.3% increase from the 2018-19 school year, up \$33.2 million for a total budget of \$303 million.
  - The budget also boosts the Monetary Award Program grants, which help cover tuition for low-income students. MAP will see a \$50 million increase over 2018.
  - Within the \$45 billion capital construction plan, \$3.2 billion was set aside for colleges and universities over the next six years. This plan provides funding to upgrade and repair crumbling buildings and to construct new facilities at public campuses.

**News at Local Level:**

- The legislative team (Michael Nejman, Linda Kolbusz-Kosan and Linda Frank) met with Jeff Julian, Executive Director of Communication and Kim Pohl, Media Relations and Legislative Affairs Manager, on May 10. Michael shared the purpose and focus of HCAA. Jeff and Kim shared updates about the college's legislative focus. Harper will be focusing, in part, on capital projects (Canning Center), finishing Building H, parking lots and map funding for undocumented students.

**News from SUAA:**

- The SUAA Annual meeting will be held in Springfield on June 27-28, 2019. At this meeting, the bylaws committee will present official changes to the bylaws which includes a change to the name of the current general board of directors to that of house of delegates.
- Included in the June 3, 2019, SUAA mini briefing:
  - The sum of \$5,000,000 is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Central Management Services for deposit into the Community College Health Insurance Security Fund.
  - The pension debt issue is not a part of the budget or any negotiations at this time.

**SLATE OF OFFICERS UPDATE** – Michael as the out-going president asked Linda to present the slate of officers that will be voted on in September 26<sup>th</sup> at the President's Luncheon at noon in the Wojcik Dining Room. They are as follows:

**President – Linda Frank**

**Past President – Michael Nejman**

**President Elect – not filled**

**Recording Secretary – Kathy Hanahan**

**Treasurer – Sharon Martin**

**Member At Large – Russ Mills**

These positions are for two years. Betty Hull made a motion to approve the slate of officers as presented and Sharon Martin seconded. It was unanimously approved.

**SUAA ANNUAL MEETING (June 27 and June 28 in Springfield) – Michael, Linda and Pat will be attending.**

## **HOPE GIVING CIRCLE**

Shannon Hynes the Director of Alumni Relations & Affinity Groups presented information on the HOPE GIVING CIRCLE program. The HOPE Giving Circle brings together influential women of diverse backgrounds with a common goal of supporting women pursuing higher education and empowering them to reach their full potential. Through scholarship support, mentoring, professional development opportunities and other means, the HOPE Giving Circle is committed to creating and enhancing educational and leadership opportunities for women. **There will be a reception with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages on Tuesday, July 16, 2019 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the Bridges of Popular Creek Country Club, 1400 Popular Creek Drive, Hoffman Estates, IL. RSVP online at [harpercollege.edu/foundation](http://harpercollege.edu/foundation) by July 9, 2019 or call 847-925-6701 with questions.**

**ALUMNI and HARPER RETIREE COCKTAIL RECEPTION – Thursday, July 25, 2019, 5:30-7:00pm at the Wojcik Conference Center Dining Room.** Enjoy wine, refreshments, hors d'oeuvres and mingling. This is an opportunity to hear from Harper College's new President, Dr. Avis Proctor. Tickets are \$15. Please visit [harpercollege.edu/alumni](http://harpercollege.edu/alumni) to register or call 847-925-6701. Following the reception there will be an Alumni Guitar Concert at the Ender Pavilion beginning at 7:30pm. The concert is free to attend and open to the public. An invitation to all Alumni and Harper Retiree is being mailed.

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES** – Linda F. informed us that we need to update our Constitution and By-laws. Michael has agreed to send a copy of the Constitution to all our members.

Hazel suggested that we put our meeting dates on the Harper Website. It was then suggested that we come up with a set date to meet regularly. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

**NEXT MEETING – September 26, 2019 in W-101 at 10:00 am preceding the President's Luncheon.**

**ADJOURNMENT – 11:02 am**

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Longmore