



Northwest Retiree Association

Board Meeting: December 6, 2024, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Valk 118

Attendance:

Board Members: Rosalie Weathermon (President), Theo Ross (Treasurer),
Christine Benson (Secretary), Karen Schaffer, Robert Dewhirst, Joel Benson

Members: John Shaw, Barbara Nelson, Ken Nelson, Jim Eiswert, Sue Wood,
Jolaine Zweifel, David McLaughlin

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order – 1:03 p.m.
- II. Welcome – NWRA President Rosalie Weathermon
- III. Approval of Agenda (David—moved approval, Bob—seconded, and passed unanimously)
- IV. Approval of August 21, 2024 Minutes--approved online by membership who voted
- V. Treasurer's Report—Submitted by Theo Ross
Budgets as of October 30, 2024:
Operating--\$6447.90
 Includes the Expense of \$23.17 for the Domain GoDaddy page
Scholarship--\$3720.89
 Includes the Expense of \$500 scholarship for Fall 2024 term
Theo also encouraged people to make donations to the scholarship fund any time by writing a check and putting NWRA Scholarship in the memo.
- VI. Calendar Year 2024 Accomplishments
 - A. Tour, Brown vs Board of Education Museum, Topeka, KS
 - B. Tour, Northwest R.T. Wright Farm
 - C. Lunch and Learn, Tudor Stuart Era
 - D. Updated Northwest Retiree Association Constitution and By-Laws
 - E. Establishment of Northwest Retiree Leadership Scholarship (Current funds \$3417.00)
 - F. Tour, R/Farm Distilling Company, Mound City, MO
 - G. Monthly Happy Hour
 Music for 2 events, The Pub, Maryville, MO

Attendance varies, but often 20 – 30

- H. Established, Facebook presence (Currently 27 members)
- I. Increased membership to 72 members
- J. Small gifts and thank you notes to Foundation staff, Mark Hornickel, and Elizabeth Kline for assistance in establishing the Northwest Missouri Retirees Association and scholarship. Because members of the Foundation Staff were busy and could not come to this meeting, Rosalie will take the gifts to the Foundation next week.
- K. Retirement thank you gift to Lori Steiner. If you would like to contribute to the cash gift, please get that to Christine ASAP.
- L. Medicare 2025 – What’s changing in 2025? – Zoom presentation and PDF by John Shaw

VII. Volunteerism

Different people shared opportunities to volunteer and/or make donations to non-profit organizations.

- A. The Salvation Army is looking for bell ringers
- B. Lettuce Dream: David is on the Board and shared that the organization is a means by which persons who are mentally challenged can develop job skills and work with coaches who help them function and contribute to society. Karen shared that she volunteers there once a week from 8:30 to 11:00, helping with the growing process or clean up around the facility. David also passed out envelopes with information.
- C. People shared about Ten-squared Men and Ten-squared Women. These are separate organizations with the same purpose. Each meets quarterly to listen to three short (5-7 minute) presentations from non-profit groups in the area. After the presentations, those present vote, and then everyone writes a check for \$100 to the winning organization. The organization leader then emails everyone in their group to let them know who won and who to write their checks to. The organizer collects the check over the following week and gives them to the winning organization.
- D. The Maryville Public Library is always looking for Board members, and they are working on raising money to secure a grant that requires matching funds. The grant is for needed renovations/restorations to the historic building.

- E. Big Brothers and Big Sisters are always looking for “Bigs” who may be of any age. They just need to be willing to spend quality time with their “Littles”.
- F. The Northwest Retiree Association is still looking for board members or other volunteers to do jobs like communicating with NW employees who are close to retiring or who are recently retired and following up with those who have just joined.
- G. The Noyes Home in St. Joseph is a place who houses children in crisis. Donations are always welcome, and you may visit there to see your donations in action.

VIII. Spring 2025 Tentative Programming

- A. Dec. 13 - Happy Hour at the Pub 4 – 6 pm
- B. Jan 10 - Happy Hour at the Pub 4 – 6 pm with music by Ben Graham and John Sowards
- C. Jan TBA - New Dinner Theatre—Overland Park, KS—NunSense (through Feb 5); Rumor (Feb-Apr); prices about \$50 to \$80 per person (Christine will put out possible dates for a matinee.)
- D. Jan 21 - (Tuesdays) Lunch and Learn 12 – 1 pm— Joel Benson – “The Protestant Reformation”, Rm. 305 in First United Methodist Church, Maryville, MO, 103 N. Main. Since NWRA has a Facebook Page, we can also use Facebook Live to record these sessions. They will stay on the site for 30 days.
- E. Feb 4 - NWRA Board Meeting 10:30 pm. Location TBA board members RSVP
- F. February TBA- John Shaw will do a presentation on Artificial Intelligence.
- G. Feb 14 - Happy Valentine’s Day/Happy Hour at the Pub 4-6 pm, Special something to be determined!
- H. Mar 14 - Happy Hour at the Pub 4-6 pm,
- I. Mar TBA - Andrew County Museum, Savannah, MO. Veterans free, Seniors \$2, Adults \$3. (We should provide coffee and cookies.) Those who plan it should consider when the MIAA Tournament is in St. Joseph, since many NWRA members will attend that.
- J. April 8 (Tuesday) - Cyber Fraud Webinar – offered by AROHE – more info to come
- K. Apr TBA – Amelia Earhart Museum, Atchison, KS

L. May 6 (Tuesday) - Spring Meeting, election of officers and tour of McKemy Building. Robots! Welding and more technology. If we must use the university food provider to have lunch at McKemy, then we will meet at a restaurant for lunch afterwards instead.

M. Jun 13 - Happy Hour at the Pub 4-6 pm

N. Jun – (Early in the month) Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha 100 Bancroft St. \$15.00 per ticket. Botanical gardens with a tram ride \$15.00 per ticket

O. In the Works

1. More music at Happy Hour
2. Revisit the Northwest Farm during baby goat time
3. Small Business Tour—Bakery and Coffee
4. Clyde and Conception MO—a historical perspective
5. World Way I Museum—Kansas City, Senior tickets \$13
6. American Jazz Museum—Kansas City, Senior tickets \$9
7. Truman Library—Independence, ticket is \$10, other options include a speaker's series
8. Negro League Baseball Museum—Kansas City (Checking on a Lunch & Learn for Seniors)

IX. Adjournment—12:57 p.m. (David—moved approval, John—seconded, and passed unanimously)

Respectfully submitted by Christine Benson, Secretary.