

**Eastern Kentucky University Retiree Association Meeting
April 15, 2014**

Location: Gillum's

Time: 11:30

Guest Speaker: David McFaddin

Topic: Update on work with President Benson (EKU) to positively position EKU during the current Legislative Session

Fawn Conley, President, called the meeting to order. Ron Wolfe moved, seconded by Charles Hay, that the February 18, minutes be approved as posted on the EKURA website; they were approved. Using the distributed agenda, Fawn reminded all retirees that in order to be eligible for any plan in 2015 other than the Standard Plan, the Humana Vitality Health Assessment (HA) MUST be completed on line by May 1, 2014. Notification regarding this plan has been sent to retirees through mailers. Other benefits available were noted in the agenda such as a new hearing benefit and an Expo being held on April 27, at the Lexington Center.

Pat Ridgley, treasurer, reported that there is \$2171.83 in the treasury. Krista distributed a scholarship report; there is currently \$48,385 in the endowment. Fawn reported that Richard Bogard, president of MCRTA, had notified her that several retirees have been shifted to the EKURA roster as EKU retirees; they will be contacted to approve this change. Ron reminded us that last year we benefited monetarily, at the rate of \$15 per retiree from KTRA, by contacting any new EKU retiree to inquire of their interest in our organization. We will set up a table at the EKU Retirement Dinner to distribute materials about EKURA. The dinner is scheduled for May 8; it will begin with a reception at 5:30 followed by a dinner at 6:00. The cost of the meal is \$20 and reservations should be made by calling Mary Raider at 622-8889. Charles Hay reported on the Battle of Richmond Tour, including a tour of White Hall State Shrine with lunch at Hall's on the River. Call Charles to sign up. The Food and Drink group will have lunch on May 13, 2014, at Holly Hill Inn in Midway. Reservations can be made by calling Ron Wolfe.

Fawn announced the AROHE meeting in Minneapolis in August. If interested, notify Fawn. We are looking for a President-elect and a Secretary for the upcoming business year. The State Convention will be April 21 and 22; Ron and Fawn will attend.

Fawn introduced David McFaddin who spoke to us regarding EKU and the Legislative Session. As Government Relations Specialist at EKU, he brought greetings from President Benson. Although the focus during budget sessions were directed toward restoring the 2008 levels for K-12 programs, he reported that EKU was very pleased with the funding awarded for the completion of Phase II of the science building, especially with the attention being given to STEM initiatives. The hope is that \$2M will be directed toward the Aviation Program at EKU. He reports continued initiatives to support faculty and staff at EKU as well as a comprehensive campaign throughout Kentucky to spread the strengths of EKU programs. He believes that with matching opportunities tapped, the doors remain open for a new facility for Model and the College of Education. The

session may yield as much as \$298M for ECU. He did encourage us to address our legislators through calls and letters when bills affecting ECU are introduced. He mentioned that even ten phone calls will impact a legislator's position on an issue. He ended his presentation by having a Q&A period.

The next meeting will be on June 17 at Gillum's with a program on identity theft.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Vance
Secretary