

**Eastern Kentucky University Retiree Association Meeting
June 16, 2015**

Location: Gillum's

Time: 11:30 AM

Facilitator: Marshall Myers; Program: Todd Jones/Jill Williams

Topic: Growth/Renovation of Baptist Health-Richmond as it relates to ECU Retirees and Healthier Lifestyles

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 after a brief period of welcome and ordering of food choices. Marshall Myers, President-elect, announced that Don Calitri, President, is out of town. Nineteen members were in attendance. Marshall called for a report from an Ad Hoc committee comprised of Pat Ridgley, Marshall Myers, and Laura Melius who were charged with trying to find a permanent meeting place for EKURA. Five locations were considered and narrowed to Golden Corral and Gillum's, both of which have meeting rooms, adequate parking, and waived use charges. Richard Vance moved, seconded by Charles Hay, that we have our August meeting at Golden Corral, return to Gillum's in October, and then select a permanent location; the motion passed.

Jackie Vance, Secretary, gave a membership report. Several EKURA members are working with Marissa Parmer, our ECU liaison, to try to justify our membership rolls with those of the state organization, KTRA, to assure that all current and eligible members of EKURA are getting all materials and announcements. When committee work is complete, letters will be mailed to all eligible ECU retirees to give information about organization plans and opportunities for joining.

Ron Wolfe gave three brief reports on organization activities:

1. Project Read, a local not-for-profit, provides tutoring services to community members in the area of literacy education and English as a Second Language.

Several EKURA members volunteer at this agency and encourage other retirees to get involved in this valuable service. Ron, Marshall, and Jackie can provide more information. This is a good way to give back to our community.

2. The annual KRTA meeting was held in Louisville in April. Ron reported that the major topics of discussion were House Bill 4, which addresses ways to correct the KTRS pension problems with unfunded liability, the AARP sponsored Grandparent Essay Contest, benefits afforded retirees, and events sponsored by KRTA. Our organization received two awards; the Silver award was for achieving established goals and an award for enrolling 62.8% of ECU retirees eligible for membership was presented.
3. Pops in the Park is scheduled for August 15, at White Hall. A number of EKURA members have attended this as a group for several years. Anyone interested in doing this, may contact Ron Wolfe or Nancy Thames.

Charles Hay reported on the EKURA Travel Group. The next event is July 21 to Dayton, Ohio, and flyers were available for information. A sign-up sheet was distributed.

Planning for next year's trips is in the early stage. Another opportunity for travel was announced by Michelle Gore. An 8-day Scottish Dream trip is open to us on October 4-11, 2015. The deadline for reservations is June 26. If interested, contact Michelle Gore or Marshall Meyer.

Pat Ridgley, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$2,028.56 in our treasury. Lifetime memberships and/or annual dues opportunities for EKURA will be announced in our next mailing.

Officers for the next year will be Marshall Myers, President; President-elect OPEN; Jackie Vance, Secretary, Pat Ridgley, Treasurer; Ron Wolfe, Membership; Health/Insurance, John Gump; Richard Vance, Legislative Contact. We are currently searching for a President-elect.

There will be a planning meeting of officers and any members wishing to attend sometime between June 22 and 26. PLEASE, email marshall.myers@eku.edu if you can attend.

Jackie Vance announced that minutes will be available on the EKURA website which is graciously maintained by Pauletta King.

Laura Melius introduced Todd Jones, President/CEO of Baptist Health, Richmond. Mr. Jones came to our hospital in November, 2010, when the local hospital signed a partnership agreement with the Baptist Health Group. Now he is leading the hospital expansion which includes not only facility expansion but program expansion with a strong emphasis on health care in Madison County, focusing on A Healthier Kentucky. The Christian Faith-based organization is financially very secure with the challenge to improve the physical, mental, and social well-being of clients and bringing them to overall improved health. With multiple millions in revenue, the institution is taxed based on Medicaid and in its role for outreach is ranked as the Baptist Health System as follows: #1 in births and Outpatient/doctor visits and #2 in admissions, cancer care, open heart surgery and ER visits. With an over-riding goal to keep people out of the hospital, its services include working with agencies to address chronic needs, community health, behavioral changes, etc. to bring the community together for good health and a healthy lifestyle.

The meeting adjourned after a period of Q&A. The next meeting will be at 11:30 Tuesday, August 18, 2015, at Golden Corral. Program to be announced.

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Vance, Secretary