The University of Minnesota Retirees Association (UMRA) Minutes of the Annual Meeting, Tuesday, 24 May 2016, Campus Club [Considered unofficial pending Board approval]

The annual UMRA meeting took place immediately prior to the monthly luncheon and speaker.

President Jean Kinsey welcomed all in attendance and explained that the main item of business was election of officers and new and renewing members of the Board of Directors. She then introduced Hal Miller, past president of UMRA and chair of the Nominations Committee.

Miller explained that, per the UMRA bylaws, the Nominations Committee consisted of five members. Miller, as UMRA’s immediate past president, was charged with chairing the committee. The bylaws specify that the committee should include one other Board member (president-elect Donna Peterson this year) and three other association members not on the Board (John Anderson, Julie Medbery, and Earl Nolting).

Miller noted that president-elect Donna Peterson would automatically accede to the position of president and Jean Kinsey from president to immediate past president. On behalf of the committee, Miller then placed in nomination the following slate of candidates for other positions:

- President-elect: Chip Peterson
- Secretary: Sherilyn Goldsmith May
- For a second year as treasurer: Carl Adams
- Board of Directors, class of 2019: Martha Feda, Judy Leahy Grimes, Cherie Hamilton, Kathleen O’Brien (for a second consecutive three-year term)
- Board of Directors, class of 2017 (to complete Sherilyn Goldsmith’s three-year term): Gerald Rinehart

There being no additional nominations from the floor, the committee’s slate was elected by acclamation.

Continuing board members will be Shirley Barber, Steve Benson, Roger Clemence, John Howe, Jeanne Markell, David Naumann, and Gloria Williams and Jean Kinsey (as past president).

Kinsey congratulated the new officers and board members and thanked those rotating off the board (Joanne Eicher, Vernon Eidman, and Virgil Larson) for their service. Noting that UMRA thrives on the volunteer efforts of many, many members, she singled out a handful for special thanks: Ginny Hanson, Newsletter editor; Hal Miller, immediate past president; Dave Naumann, webmaster; Chip Peterson, secretary; Carl Adams, treasurer; and John Anderson and Virgil Larson, leaders of the membership committee.

Kinsey described a retirement tradition in the Department of Applied Economics from which she retired. That is, the faculty of the department gives the retiree a maroon blazer complete with gold buttons bearing the seal of the Regents of the U of M. The retired faculty often wears these jackets to department and U events.

Kinsey then introduced president-elect (and soon-to-be president) Donna Peterson, who took the floor to thank Kinsey for her wisdom and tireless work as president this year and, on behalf of the membership, presented her with a gift certificate as a modest token of appreciation.

The post-lunch speaker was Peter Moe, interim director of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.