



Minutes of the

ANNUAL MEETING

Arizona State University Retirees Association

April 18, 2015, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Prior to the beginning of the formal meeting, members in attendance enjoyed time for casual conversation and light refreshments.

Welcome and Association Overview – Jo Madonna

President Jo Madonna opened the formal meeting at 1:15 by welcoming everyone and recognizing and thanking Board officers and members, committee chairs, and the many volunteers who support the Association and carry out its functions.

Remarks by Scholarship Recipient Tara Pryts

Scholarship Committee Chair Sue Blumer thanked the organization and the members of the Scholarship Committee for making the scholarship possible. Sue introduced Tara Pryts, 2014-15 Scholarship recipient.

Tara, a senior in the School of Sustainability, thanked the Association for providing the scholarship, which she feels privileged to receive. Tara is from a small town in Southern Oregon. When she was 22 years old, she left a successful career in retail and came to Arizona, studying at Scottsdale Community College. While there, she determined to change from her initial study in interior design to sustainability. Tara explained the nature and structure of Sustainability as an academic discipline, its importance to the environment, and her commitment to its principles. She is looking forward to beginning her career in sustainability, with particular interest in

cities, in designing sustainable products, and implementing sustainable urban policies.

Video History Project Interview Clips

Project Committee Chair Dave Scheatzle noted that the Video History Project began as an effort to record the history of ASU's development through the people who were part of it and has continued that process. He showed clips from recent interviews to give the audience a sense of the Project and the interview process.

Remarks by Ray Anderson, ASU Vice President for University Athletics and Athletic Director

Jo Madonna introduced Ray Anderson and noted that when she asked the Board for suggestions for speakers, they indicated that they wanted Ray Anderson, and when she contacted him about the possibility of his speaking at the Annual Meeting, he quickly indicated his enthusiasm for doing so.

Anderson discussed the process that brought him to ASU, and the critical role of President Crow and his vision for the university and the Athletic Department. He indicated the enthusiasm and energy of the student athletes and the opportunity to work with them has been tremendously rewarding. Anderson offered several examples of how the athletic program is forwarding the mission that President Crow has established for ASU. For example, the football stadium is being reconfigured into a resource accessible to the community for a range of activities, rather than being used only for a few games each year. ASU Athletics is going to be run more like a business so it can achieve financial independence and sustainability. At the same time, the mission of the student-athlete will be at the forefront. The commitments are to have student athletes graduate, to compete for championships, to compete within the rules, and to bring the athletic mission into the community. Anderson indicated that ASU wants to compete in every sport – he noted recent additions of men's hockey and women's lacrosse, and the lack of a men's soccer team and a men's tennis team, sports the Athletic Department will be pursuing. New people have been joining the Athletic Department in order to form staff that can move

forward in a creative and energetic way. In addition, the coaching staff is being upgraded so the student athletes receive the finest training from enthusiastic and competitive coaches. They are trying to build student-athletes who are champions while here and champions in life when they leave ASU. The Athletic Department is seeking partners who value the ASU brand and will support its development and advancement. Questions from the audience included inquiries about the commitment to the athletes' education, academic support, and the move to pay student-athletes. Anderson indicated that the athletic programs ASU are interested in emulating are Stanford and Wisconsin, where athletes come to participate until they graduate. At ASU, academic support is being strengthened. He believes that athletes should be supported more fully but in a reasonable manner.

Introduction of New Board Members and Officers by 2015-16 ASURA President Jim Fordemwalt

Jo Madonna introduced the new Board officers and members and continuing members, and introduced Jim Fordemwalt, the incoming President of the Association. Jim welcomed the new and continuing Board members and remarked on issues to be addressed in the coming year, particularly membership and finances. He noted events that the Association is sponsoring, for example, travel opportunities and seminars. Jim concluded the meeting and invited participants to spend a few minutes visiting with one another and partaking of the refreshments.