

NMSU Pioneers Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 14, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
University Center and Residence

- I. Call to Order
President Denise Welsh called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- II. Review and approval of January 25, 2017 Minutes
Debbie Widger moved to accept the minutes, and Rosemarie Sanchez seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
- III. Treasurer's Report
Conrad Keyes reported that the Pioneers general account has \$2,737.92 as of May 30, 2017, and the Book Scholarship has \$4,282.25 for the fall scholarship awards. Leslie Cervantes of Alumni Relations offered to prepare a report of the donors to show the individual donation amounts without names. George Abernathy moved to accept the report with a second from Rosemarie Sanchez.
- IV. Pioneer Book Scholarship Update
April Anaya presented an update on the scholarship selection process. The entire Pioneers Board was sent the information on the applicants, a change from the previous use of a subcommittee of the Board. Four students were selected; two will be at the luncheon today. There was a discussion of the need for better guidelines for next year. There was a discussion of the process whereby the Pioneers list is pulled automatically from all Scholar Dollars applicants, the centralized system used in Financial Aid. There is a rubric for pulling out students who meet the minimum requirements including having relatives who are alumni or employees and grade point average. Leslie Cervantes will get details on the process and may ask someone who works with it to come to a board meeting to describe it. Concern was expressed as to how our scholarship winners have been distributed across the NMSU colleges. Also, more information is needed on each applicant.
- V. Greg Throneberry, President-Elect, was officially introduced by Denise Welsh.
- VI. NMSU Pioneers Luncheon
 - A. Denise announced that 66 people are expected to attend today's luncheon. There were invitations in the summer newsletter, in two emails, and follow-up telephone calls.
 - B. Discussion of future luncheon events
The Fall Luncheon will be held at the NMSU Golf Course on November 15. Various venues were discussed. The Farm and Ranch Museum has no charge but has a long walk to get inside to the dining room. The President's Residence is difficult to use because any group can be cancelled if an important visitor is coming to stay. Both the Stan Fulton Center and the NMSU Golf Course charge for the use of the facilities. The Stan Fulton Center is desirable because of the parking and access to the dining room. It was decided to explore negotiations for a lower cost if the Pioneers committed to multiple events.

The luncheons have been costing more than the income. For instance, this luncheon costs \$14.99 but Pioneers absorbs the lunch cost for our student guests and speakers. The actual breakeven cost is \$17 so a charge of \$18 for the fall was discussed. Conrad

Keyes requested the attendance count for five years of the fall luncheons. Information on food vendors will be obtained, specifically to see whether Dickerson's Catering is a possibility for providing the food at the Golf Course. April Anaya will send research on costs to the board members via email.

Options for presentations for the fall and spring luncheons include Martha Andrews of the NMSU library who has a presentation regarding student unrest in the 1970's that utilizes Mark Medoff and Michael Swickard. Another option is inviting representatives from student organizations of each college to discuss their activities. It was decided to ask Martha Andrews for the fall luncheon and the students in the spring.

Rosemarie Sanchez suggested that greeters be present at each luncheon to make each attendee feel especially welcome. The board members could do this both at entrance and exit. This will help in recruitment.

VII. Benefits Update

Rene Yoder has no actual update at this time. The insurance companies are working on data for the Insurance Committee. Renewal is based on actual costs over the previous year. Then the committee weighs the costs and benefits of increasing premiums or making plan changes. An agreement should be signed by the end of August and finalized in September so that notices can be sent to retirees at the beginning of October. Rene announced that she is leaving NMSU in August but Andrew Pena, the Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services, and/or the chair of the Insurance Committee will be able to give information to the Pioneers Board.

VIII. Save the Date

The next Pioneers Board meeting will be held on September 20 at 10:00 a.m. at the Alumni Office Center.

IX. Denise adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.