

Minutes
GPC/DeKalb College Retiree Association
Quarterly Meeting August 8, 2012
Clarkston Campus
CN2220

12:00 Noon: Brown Bag Lunch and Conversation

The business session opened promptly at 1:00. It was moderated by Betty Molloy who requested that all members introduce themselves.

- Minutes of the May 9th meeting had been distributed. The members were given the opportunity to review the minutes. Secretary Carter asked if there were any changes to be made. Barbara Nipp moved to accept the minutes as written. Ron Swofford seconded the motion. All approved.
- Mary Sanders presented the Treasurer's Report that had also been distributed prior to the meeting. The report was accepted.
- Betty Molloy gave the President's report. She pointed out the advantages of membership, such as the two annual field trips. She announced the AROHE membership and explained that members could access AROHE.org. She mentioned the cost of the conference in Chapel Hill in October and asked if members would agree to pay the \$230 registration fee. (This was approved at the end of the meeting.) President Molloy also mentioned the GAHero association to which GPCRA belongs. Molloy introduced Sandy Waller who then told of the next meetings of the Book Club.
- Bari Haskins-Jackson announced the next Quarterly meeting (open enrollments and benefits) to be held on Oct 10th or in early November. She also told about the November trip to Big Canoe and the Holiday Celebration fundraiser planned for December 7th from noon to 3:00 pm. As an added encouragement to attend, she announced the anonymous donor who promises to give an amount equal to one half of the proceeds of the event up to \$1000.
- President Molloy introduced GPC President Rob Watts who has had a long and varied history with GPC, this time taking the reins during a period of fiscal concerns. President Watts described the short term actions taken before the June 30 deadline and the acquisition of loans from Georgia State and W. Georgia. He discussed the challenges the school is facing: the elimination of all vacant positions, the increase in faculty teaching loads, and the reduction in force by 22% of non-faculty full-time staff. With all of these measures GPC will not recoup all compensation during this fiscal year. He mentioned the outstanding variables one of which is the fall enrollment which has been hampered by the new learning support requirements and the Compass testing before acceptance. These measures have made 2500 applying students non-admissible. However, President Watts did announce that the Board of Regents approved a new academic building at Decatur Campus. Finally, he mentioned the imminent SACS visit on Sept 26 -27th, the worst possible time for this visit. When asked about causes of the fiscal problem, President Watts said that the report from the Internal Auditor is due in August. In response to a question about how retirees can help, Watts mentioned that retirees can help with tutoring and can contact Tonya Andrews. When asked if there would be a search for a new president, President Watts replied that a search would not begin until the fiscal problems had been fixed. Mergers are on hold.

- Bari Haskins-Jackson introduced Carolyn Bradford from United Health Care. She apologized for the absence of Eli McKenzie who usually gives the presentation on Understanding Medicare. However, Carolyn Bradford answered many questions posed by the audience, and she differentiated between Parts A, B, D and C (Medicare advantage). Next Haskins-Jackson introduced David Dick, the GPC Foundation Auditor who presented Understanding Retirement and Individual Taxes. He mentioned the importance of creating a budget. He also mentioned that Federal taxes are now at historically low rates. He also discussed retirement vehicles consisting of pensions, IRAs, etc. He defined ordinary income and answered a question about value drop of dividends. Another retirement vehicle is Social Security. Changes to occur in Georgia retirement income exclusion in 2013 were discussed.
- The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Frank Seco de Lucera and seconded by Bari Haskins-Jackson

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Carter