The meeting was called to order by the President, Mike Klineman at 10:02 am.

Present: Karen Ammons, Gretchen Anderson, Sandy Bolivar, Janette Brown, Fred Dear, Bill Givens, Jill Hopkins, Connie Horak, Dixon Johnson, Mike Klineman, Calvin Lau, Dick Martin, Harriet Servis, Donna Simmons, and Sue Vogl

Guest: Sunnye Chew

Absent: Evelyn Alva, David Donovan, Linda Forman, James Johnston and Lynn Williams

Welcome and Remarks – Michael Klineman
- The June 2019 General Meeting will be election of officers of the SRA Board.

Approval of minutes from February meeting – Linda Forman
- The carefully prepared minutes of the February 15, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved following motion by Donna Simmons, and second by Dick Martin.

Reports

Financial Report and Data Management, and Membership Recruitment and Renewals – Dick Martin
- Treasurer’s report: Dick circulated a detailed financial analysis of all income and expenses for the current fiscal year, as of 4/18/2019. The USC Credit Union accounts total $25,845.70 with $11,967.62 in the checking account. The SRA share of the Endowment Account is $64,339.78 (annual earnings rate = 4.50%). Year to date for 2018-19 total funds received for dues, endowment and gifts are $12,990. As of 4/18/2019, we have 275 2018-19 paid renewals, 158 life members and 142 joint members. In addition, we have 147 new gold card retirees who received their first year SRA membership free. Fifteen (15) members renewed beyond 2019.
- The 109 2018 new retirees who received one-year free SRA membership will be reminded again to renew. If they choose not to they will be dropped from the member rolls.
- Upon motion by Donna Simmons and second by Connie Horak, the board voted to recommend to the membership at the annual meeting to increase annual dues from $20 to $25. This is being done to better meet the increase in meal costs, transportation, postage, and printing expenses.
• With an eye toward increasing membership, Janette reported the success the EC had in reaching retirees by phone who do not have email. Harriet and Karen agreed to work on script to be used by SRA board members in contacting new retirees and encouraging them to join.

Staff Assembly – Bill Givens
• Bill Givens reported the Staff Assembly (SA) has raised questions concerning coordination issues between USC Senior Care and Medicare coverage.
• Connie Horak will be our new representative to the SA starting in July 1, 2019 and will follow developments on this and other issues.

RFA – Calvin Lau
• Calvin reported on the Faculty Senate meeting where USC President-designate Carol L. Folt spoke. He reported that the meeting was very positive and bodes well for her future interaction with faculty.

Programs and Hospitality – Connie Horak, Harriet Servis and Donna Simmons
• The 2018 Staff Retiree Luncheon in Town and Gown was attended by 220 people including 43 new retirees who were accompanied by approximately 50 guests. (The total attendance was 185 last year.) As customary, this annual event was funded by the Office of the Sr. V.P. for Administration. All appreciated the fine work done by Connie, Harriet and Donna and the numerous volunteers who helped make it such a success. In the future we will try to have the Senior VP to attend in person and update members on campus developments and changes.
• Harriet reported on the plans for the June Annual Meeting scheduled for Friday June 21, 2019. It will feature a tour of the Doheny Library led by University Historian, Claude Zachary. Due to new ID requirements for entry to the library, tentative plans are to have attendees enter the Library by the doors closest to Alumni House thereby providing easy access to the elevator and the meeting room on the third floor.
• The board approved money for sending out an announcement letter to the 788 people on the SRA mailing list. Connie, Mike and Janette will work with Harriet concerning details. Registration to start at 9:30 with the tour to follow. The box luncheon will be provided by City Kitchen, a new vendor for SRA, recommended by Sunnys Chew. Lunch will be served after the tour around, 11:30am.

Emeriti Center – Janette Brown
• Janette reported great interest in the upcoming- April 24, 2019 USC Emeriti Center “Meet and Greet” and “Medicare: Everything You Want to Know”. Of the 56 people who have registered, 75% are current faculty and staff. Dick Martin, Bill Givens and Sunny Chew are planning to attend to describe life as USC retirees and the opportunities, events and programs offered by the SRA.
• Janette announced that with part of her presidential award money she is purchasing Life Membership in the SRA.

• Meeting with President-designate Carol L. Folt. With the invaluable scheduling assistance of Katie Boeck, a team of Jerry Walker, Calvin Lau, Richard MacKenzie, Mike Klineman and Janette had a very productive meeting with Dr. Folt on March 29, 2019. They described to her the various values retirees provide to USC and the many programs the Emeriti Center and its partner groups, the RFA and the SRA, offer to the university and the community. (Hand out sheet being sent.) Dr. Folt has agreed to be the guest speaker at our annual December general meeting. All were very impressed with her as a good listener and with her fond memories of how the retired faculty and staff at the University of North Carolina were very supportive of her campus leadership. The group was very pleased with the meeting and left with high expectations for her leadership.

• Linda K. Forman volunteered to serve as Communication Officer. Articles for the upcoming SRA newsletter should be sent to lforman@usc.edu.

• The Living History Project needs a sponsor (director), to recruit participants and coordinate recorded interviews.

• Contact the EC if you need the form for a new or replacement gold card.

• More information about EC activities can be found on the Emeriti Center website or by sending an email to: emeriti@usc.edu.

Emeriti Center Benefits & Resources Committee – Connie Horak

• James Johnston will be participating.

• The Staff Assembly Employee Benefits Chair (EBC) will also be a member of the Emeriti Center Benefits & Resources Committee.

Special Events – Bill Givens

• Bill reported on the Last Bookstore tour which was very enjoyable for the 15 people who attended. Transportation issues and date changes affected participation.

• Future tour ideas include: The Clark Mansion with its collection of Oscar Wilde memorabilia, the USC Marine Science Institute on Catalina, the USC Information Sciences Institute in Marina del Rey, and the Asia Pacific Museum.

• A visit to Professor. Lynn Swartz Dodd’s USC archeology lab and collection is being explored.

• A Walt Disney Concert Hall Organ tour is still being researched. A compatible date remains a problem.

Old Business

• None

New Business
Nominations and Elections for 2019-2021: Dixon happily reported that Dick Martin has agreed to be nominated as Treasurer, Linda Forman for Secretary, David Donovan for Vice President, and Sue Vogl for President. (Unfortunately, David, citing multiple responsibilities, has subsequently decided not to be nominated. So that search continues.) Dixon will be responsible for preparing the ballot for the election and for approval of the dues increase.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon to sample the food supplied by City Kitchen, which is bidding to cater for the June 21, 2019 annual meeting.

Adjournment at 11:52 am

Recorded and submitted to the Secretary by Dixon Johnson.
With many thanks, transcribed by Secretary, Linda K. Forman.