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Meeting Minutes: April 20, 2006

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Emeriti Association
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

April 20, 2006
UNL East Campus Union

President Irv Omtvedt called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon.

Vice President/Program Chair Howard Ottoson introduced Emeritus Max Clegg, to present a program on *"BRAN"* – Bicycle Ride Across Nebraska.

Clegg noted that BRAN completed its 25th year—having been organized in 1981, and he has ridden in eight BRAN events since 1995. He described BRAN as "a safe, enjoyable ride across Nebraska, a non-charitable, non-profit activity". It has traversed all of the state's 93 counties. Men, women and children ride BRAN..

The 2005 "Silver Lining Tour" drew riders from 35 states—most over 50 years of age—the oldest rider 82. The yearly event is limited to 600 riders; individual registration fee is $90, commemorative T-shirt included. Food costs and other expenses may cost $20 more or less per day per rider. The organization currently awards $25,000 in scholarships each year and has contributed $250,000 from 1985 through 2005.

For training, BRAN riders are recommended to complete at least 300 miles in various distances on the bike—15 or 20 miles daily with some distance rides of 45-60 miles.

The 2005 BRAN experience: Day 1—Kimball to Bridgeport; Day 2—Bridgeport to Arthur, Day 3 –Arthur to Arnold. Riders had a rest stop at this Custer County town, to replenish supplies. Day 4—Arnold to Loup City; Day 5—Loup City to Aurora; Day 6—Aurora to Brainard; Day 7—Brainard to Waterloo.

Churches, service organizations as well as restaurants provide food for the riders. Also, entertainment is available at each town where they camp. The average mileage is around 70 miles and the longest segment may exceed 100 miles. In answer to a question, Clegg emphasized that the bikes travel on paved roads…not dirt or gravel/crushed rock bike trails.

The 2006 event will begin in Broken Bow and conclude at Springfield, a distance of 437 or 500 miles, depending on which route is selected.

In answer to another question from the floor, Clegg said good bikes cost from $700-$750. He displayed a number of bikers' clothing and gear for inspection and possible questions.

Note to those viewing this set of minutes on-line: The Clegg presentation was excellent—very detailed as a fast-moving slide show. Summary account above does not include many interesting and important details. New feature on website reported last

month: “listen and watch” presentation by Clegg, and that of other speakers/presenters at regular monthly meetings. Extra Bonus: Emeriti Webmaster Jim Kendrick announced March 31 to all on Emeriti Listserve that “we are now video podcasting Emeriti Assn. speakers’ remarks.” Go to the Look/Listen tab on the website to see what’s new; contact Kendrick if you have technical questions re podcasting.

President Omtvedt called the business session to order at 12:50 p.m. The minutes of the March 16 membership meeting were approved, on a motion by Jack Goebel and second by Jim McShane.

Treasurer Walter Mientka was unable to attend due to teaching responsibilities. Omtvedt presented the report. Mientka reported receiving (as of April 20), 56 membership dues mailings, including one Life Member (Jack Goebel), one 2-year membership, and one $5 donation.

Highlights of the Treasurer’s report, from March 1-31, 2006, inclusive: Assets: Maude Wisherd Fund: book value--$55,066.83; spendable earnings--$30,454.77. Emeriti Assn. Foundation Fund--$500. Estimate of annual income--$7,597.01 Checking account balance--$5,294.39.

A description of the UNL Emeriti Assn. Foundation Fund with details regarding contributions and use of proceeds of the fund, can be viewed at http://emeriti.unl.edu/money.html

The question was discussed regarding a permanent record of all Emeriti since inception of this designation to the present. A record has been compiled through 1997; data must be gathered and compiled from that year to the present. An optimum approach to the UNL administration to gather a list of confirmed Emeriti since 1997 was discussed.

It was reminded that the next Emeriti Assn. board meeting would be held on May 2.

Omtvedt requested “Memory Moments” for recently deceased Emeriti Theodore Jorgensen and Cyril Bish.

A question was raised as to what format of sympathy card—type of stationery--should be sent by the Association to surviving family members. Clegg said a model note card could be designed to allow the Membership Relations Committee, and individual Emeriti, to print out a sympathy card.

Looking ahead to Emeriti Assn.-related events:

--NU President’s Retiree Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., May 23, Embassy Suites Hotel.

--September 14, NU Foundation sponsored luncheon; details to be announced.

--October 19, Emeriti Assn. membership meeting, East Campus Union, genealogy-related presentation by Delivee Wright, *"Exploring Your Roots."*

OLLI (formerly SAGE program) under UNL umbrella—Osher Foundation hopes for a $1 million

Endowment to support programs in the future. Emeriti Assn. is mentioned in the proposal; Emeritus Deanna Eversoll, former coordinator of the SAGE program, hopes for a partnership involving the Emeriti Assn.

Jack Goebel said OLLI would offer two 7-week sessions in each semester. Funding would include single memberships at $50 each, including one class; $25 for an additional class. Parking fee would be included within the registration. Sessions also would be offered at Southeast Community College Lincoln campus, which offers excellent parking facilities. George Tuck and James McShane prepared a resolution. McShane said the gist of the resolution would officially link the Emeriti Assn. to OLLI as a partner. The following resolution was moved by Loyd Fischer and seconded by James McShane; approved by voice vote:

"Resolved: That the Emeriti Association of UNL does hereby indicate its support of the long-term goals of OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at UNL of providing non-credit continuing education courses for senior learners of the Lincoln area; of encouraging the intellectual stimulation and social interaction of these learners; and thereby increasing the number of mentally active, socially and politically engaged citizens; and, be it further resolved that the UNL Emeriti Association authorizes its Executive Committee to seek favorable terms for UNL Emeriti professors, their spouses, widows, widowers or significant others to join Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and to encourage the OLLI staff to recruit UNL Emeriti Association members as teaching resources to the Institute."

There being no further unfinished, old or new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan B. Lutz, secretary