

USI Retirees Coordinating Council Meeting

2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 15, 2026

Griffin Center

Call to Order: President Charmaine McDowell called the meeting to order at 2:06

Members Present: Christy Baker, Larry Back, Terri Branson, Jeri Burger, Craig Ehlen, Janet Johnson, and Charmaine McDowell.

Approval of Council Minutes– Christy Baker: The minutes were emailed, and members will vote to accept via email this week.

Treasurer’s Report – Craig Ehlen: Copies of the Treasurer’s Report for both November and December were provided. As of December 31, 2025, we have \$711.68 in our account with 79 total paid memberships. Terri made the motion to accept the treasurer’s report as presented, with Jeri seconding. Motion carried.

President’s Report – Charmaine McDowell

- **Review of annual meeting** – All agreed the meeting was well attended, but would like to see increased attendance.
- **Review of NOT Back to School Luncheon** – all agreed the server at Turoni’s did a fantastic job keeping all the tickets organized, and calling us by name was impressive.
- **Discussion of Vintage Times**
 - **Ideas for the next publication:** Charmaine suggested focusing the next issues on our members by asking, “*What are you doing in retirement?*” One issue would highlight new skills or hobbies, and another would focus on travel. We are reaching out to members. The next issue will be published in time for the foundation luncheon in March.
- **Website**
 - **Updates to Retiree Website**
 - Minutes—Linda Tribble reported that all missing minutes are now available on the Retiree Website (<https://www.usi.edu/retirees>)
 - It was suggested that a statement be added noting that membership follows the fiscal year, July 1–June 30. This information should also be included on the application and payment form.
 - New Officers need to be added to the website.
- **Spring scholarships**
- Charmaine has the list of eligible scholarship candidates. Recipients will be selected by random draw and notified by Charmaine. A letter is prepared for the president to send to the recipients. We give four \$150 scholarships each spring and fall semester. Two are undergraduate students, and two are graduate students.
- **Upcoming Events**

- **Thursday, February 26, 10 a.m.; Mesker Park Zoo—Orchid Escape** – Charmaine is hoping to get someone from the zoo to talk to us about the orchids while we are eating in the Rainforest Grill.
 - **Saturday, March 21, 11 a.m.; USI Foundation Luncheon, Griffin Center**
 - **Wednesday, June 3, 9 a.m.; Tour and presentation at Minka House, lunch to follow (on or off campus)**
 - **Tuesday, August 11, 11:30 a.m.; Turoni's?**
 - **September 16; Founder's Day** the University is discussing changing this event. TBD.
 - **October; Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science** -the exact date and time will be determined in June, once the museum renovations are complete.
 - **Thursday, November 19, 3 p.m.; City View?** – This location will be determined closer to the date.
- **Foundation report** – no representative from the foundation was in attendance.

Old Business

- **Letters to new retirees** -Charmaine has received a list from HR of new retirees. She will contact Linda to determine if they have already received a letter or email from us. Jeri reminded that a letter was on the flash drive to be used for this purpose.

Next Meeting – Saturday, March 21, 2026, 9 a.m. Griffin Center

Adjournment -Craig made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Janet. Meeting adjourned at 2:59.

Respectfully Submitted
Terri Branson, Substitute Secretary