

Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants

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Minutes of Meeting December 17, 2018

The meeting was held at the Wisconsin Education Association Council, Media Room, 33 Nob Hill, Madison, and was called to order by the Vice Chair Jerold Vreeland at 9:30 a.m.

DIRECTORS & ALTERNATES PRESENT: J. Blank, BLUE-R; B. Brooks, CWCR; S. Drew, SWIB; B. Fendel, AFSCME 32; S. Haase, UWRA; B. Holmes, ESP; A. Knop, WEAC-R; R. Kratz, DOC; K. Kreul, WFT-R; J. Lawton, ACE; J. Maydak, West Allis; J. Miller, DNR; G. Mitchell, AFSCME 52; E. Reiter, KM-R; B. Schaefer, SEA; J. Stangl, DCAREA; J. Vreeland, Wauwatosa; D. Wilcenski, WREA.

GUESTS: A. Fendel, J. Forester, T. Hunter, N. Ketterhagen, M. Lamkins, C. Preisler, R. Wojciak.

EXCUSED: R. Beglinger, J. Egan, E. Frank, J. Groszklaus, R. Springman, S. Sweet, C. Welch, J. Palmer.

MINUTES of the November meeting were approved as mailed.

GUEST: Chris Preisler, Communications Specialist, SWIB.

The summary of returns was shared. The core fund is at -0.32% and the variable fund is at 0.04%. Both are exceeding their benchmarks, Real estate and private equity seem to be performing OK with most of the other portfolios flat. Total assets under management are around \$94 billion. It's been a rough ride toward the end of the year.

Board trustee Paul Stewart has resigned due to time commitment to his private business.

Institutional Investor magazine has recognized SWIB for its internal investment strategy; alpha-beta overlay.

The board last week received a report from Callan and CEM supporting the low operation. The data is based on 2017, with internal management reducing overall costs. With internal costs increasing due to more asset management, overall cost is still low. Calen reports over the last five years ending September 30, 2018 the returns have been 7.5%. The ten year return is 7.98%. All reports are available at the SWIB website.

Management structure has been changed and will be a topic of discussion in January.

LAB is close to reporting the SWIB two-year management audit and the annual financial audit.

GUEST: Tarna Hunter, Legislative Liaison, ETF.

The lame-duck legislative session added four more members to the group insurance board, two from the senate and two from the assembly, with senate confirmation.

(Removed from the bill prior to signing, minutes corrected 1/14/19)

ETF was exempted from a bill requiring agencies to provide guidance documents and legal references, since ETF is different than most state agencies.

ETF has been in contact with JSCRS co-chair Representative Felzkowski who expressed an interest in her assignment. Several other committee assignments were shared and as more committees are filled, ETF will be in contact.

There are a couple of bills that will be introduced or re-introduced pertaining to ETF benefits. Protective status for police and jailers will be a topic as will ETF pension funds being made available for restitution of criminal behavior by members.

The WRS brochure is being updated and will be available soon.

The ETF Board met last week and following a review of the actuarial studies the Board decided to reduce the assumed rate of return from 7.2% to 7.0%.

GUEST: Mark Lamkins, Director of Communications, ETF.

A review of the ETF website redevelopment project, which is targeted for completion in June 2019. There has been considerable surveying and testing of the various website components. The last website design was done in 2002-03. The goal is to make the website easy to access and mobile friendly, for phones and other instruments. Another goal is navigation with an improved search engine. There will be use of graphics and language as basic as possible.

A style pallet showing limited graphics and limited language used to move through the website was shared.

CORRESPONDENCE - Gary Mitchell is representing a new organization, AFSCME Retirees Sub Chapter 52, and was welcomed to WCOA.

OLD BUSINESS - As a result of the WCOA election Sandy Drew was elected chair, Jerold Vreeland was elected vice chair, and the secretary and treasurer were unopposed.

NEW BUSINESS - American Family has three open dates in May - May 6, 10th, 13th. There are a number of conflicts for any date that we chose.

MSC The WCOA will hold it 2019 Annual Conference on Friday, May, 10, 2019.

TREASURER'S REPORT - There are 14 organizations that have paid their annual fee. Check book balance \$9,947.00. Treasurers report accepted as presented.

NEXT MEETING: January 14, 2019, 9:30 a.m. Wisconsin Education Association Council, Second Floor Mendota Room, 33 Nob Hill, Madison, WI.

The meeting adjourned by 11:15 a.m.

Annual Conference Friday May 10, 2019

Respectfully submitted – Dick Kratz