

**ECCO Annual Meeting  
October 24, 2013 5:30 PM  
Valentino's Restaurant – Party Room**

**Call to Order**

President Ann Bleed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Board Members Present**

Ann Bleed, Rebecca Carr, Scot Dewitt, Mary Eisenhart, Gary Gerkin, Tom Madsen, Patti Pearson, Sally Ruggia-Haden, Danielle Shea, and Brian Striman

**President's Report**

President A. Bleed gave brief overview of the year's events by having everyone stand, who participated during the year in the events sponsored by ECCO – an overwhelming number of people in the room had been a part of this past year's activities.

**Bylaws**

A. Bleed explained the proposed changes – copies provided to members to review prior to the meeting:

- Addition of notation of 501(c)(4) status of ECCO
- Changes to Articles II, III, and IV, regarding the deletion of Business membership, due to insurance requirements

Jan Gauger made a motion that the Bylaws changes be adopted as presented.

Marge Thomssen seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Setting of Annual Dues for 2014/2015**

A. Bleed explained that dues needed to be set, in order that ECCO could collect them in advance of the next Annual Meeting. The Board proposed an increase in dues to \$25 for 2014/2015; however, in the event that there are enough funds to support the organization, the Board may elect to reduce the dues below \$25.

Jan Gauger made a motion that the dues be increased to \$25 for 2014/2015 – with the stipulation that if the increase is not needed, the Board may elect to reduce them.

Lisa Warren seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Collection of Dues**

A. Bleed explained the clarification to add the Fiscal year to the Bylaws, to run October 1 through September 30, including collection of dues.

Paul Johnson made a motion that the Bylaws change be adopted as presented.

Jan Gauger seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Nominations for Board Members**

A. Bleed presented the slate of nominees, including the following – copies provided to members to review prior to meeting:

- Ann Bleed
- Paul Johnson
- Richard Voeltz
- Vicki Wood (could not be present for the meeting)

She asked for nominations from the floor – there were none.

Gary Gerkin made a motion that the slate of nominees be elected as presented.

Janet Buck seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Program**

- Noted Lincoln Historian Ed Zimmer presented a detailed history of the site of the current Valentino's Restaurant, from its beginnings as a market, Val's Fruit market, and Valentino's. Val Wyler and Zena Gatto Wyler were the original

owners, changing to a restaurant in 1957. Tony and Ron Messineo officially purchased the restaurant in January 1972, and own it today.

- \_\_\_\_\_ spoke about the new building project
  - ✓ First floor is Valentino's restaurant and take-out
  - ✓ Second floor will have UNL offices + extended stay apartments for visiting professors, etc.
  - ✓ Third floor will be market price apartments – not for undergraduate student housing
- Tony Messineo, owner of Valentino's, presented a detailed history and memories of his time at the restaurant. Meeting participants shared memories as well. He also shared details regarding the new restaurant. There will no longer be a buffet; there will be take-out on the west/south. They hope to have a beer/wine license – not for a bar, but to serve these drinks with dinner. The iconic, pink "Pizza" sign will remain.
- Tony also announced a drawing for participants, with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes, for answering the following 3 questions correctly (or most correctly):
  - ✓ How many slices of pizza are sold in the stadium at a home Cornhusker football game?
  - ✓ How many pounds of cheese are used in all of Valentino's restaurants each year?
  - ✓ What is the favorite pizza topping in Lincoln?Answers and results of the drawing will appear in the next newsletter.
- J. J. Yost of the City Parks and Recreation Department, presented details including "final artists' rendering" of the plans for the Valentino's-Idylwild Park. He answered members' questions, and provided the drawing for all to review.

**Next Board Meeting – Thursday November 14, 2013 @ Warren Methodist Church**

Respectfully submitted  
Mary Eisenhart