**MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**December 5, 2012**

The meeting of the MSU Retirees Association was held on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in room 125 Nisbet building

Present: Ron Smith, Rosemary Pavlik, John Forsyth, Patrick Scheetz, Al LeBlanc, David Brower, Jerry Hull, Stephanie Barch, Marilyn Rothert, Gale Gower

President Ron Smith called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Patrick Scheetz to accept the minutes of the November 7, 2012 meeting with corrections. Jerry Hull seconded the move. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Bob Wenner is recovering from surgery and could not be present.

Budget and Finance Report: Dave Brower reported that he is tracking how long it takes to have contributions reported back to us. He is doing a full accounting for this year. The contributors could be recognized at least twice a year in the international newsletters. Patrick Scheetz suggested that they could also be listed on the website.

A discussion of the cost of publishing the newsletters raised the idea of publishing all editions in black and white for mailing, and having color in the online editions. There is a savings of approximately $1,500 for publishing in black and white instead of color. It was also discussed to use cheaper paper instead of glossy. Al said that there are 2,600 newsletters sent for the ‘local’ edition, 700 of which are paid subscriptions, and 4,100 newsletters sent for the ‘international’ edition. Al, Ron and Dave will investigate the cost of sending everyone a newsletter.

President’s Report: Ron will get a committee together in January to make some decisions about the annual luncheon. It still needs to be decided if there will be a speaker and/or entertainment. The Lincoln Room is reserved already. An application that includes a menu and special accommodation requests will be sent out in February in the newsletter. Information for the newsletter for February is needed by January 11, and by March 8 for the April newsletter. The December newsletter could have a “save the date” notice for the luncheon.

Vice President’s Report: Rosemary said that Val Berryman, the December meeting speaker, is very ill and will not be able to speak at the meeting. Kurt Dewhurst is looking for a replacement speaker from the Museum. The speaker for February will be Lee Rieman from Willingham and Cote on the topic of living trusts, wills and other related items of interest. There were twenty-four members at the November Recycling Center tour. Rosemary said that there were 135 members at our first meeting, 65 at the next meeting and 77 at the last meeting. Ron will get the contact name for a tour of the new Broad Art Center. The Faculty Emeriti would like to have a joint tour with us.

President Simon is scheduled to be at the Florida Retiree’s annual meeting. The information must go out in January. John and Gale will get addressed to Rosemary for the mailing.

Renee Rivard will present at the March meeting, along with Jana Jirak , the Clincal Center pharmacist. Sharon Butler may not be available.

Health Benefits Committee Report: Marilyn Rothert reported on the committee meeting held Monday, December 3 with Renee Rivard and Sharon Butler. Renee reported that the University is performing a dependent audit for current employees only. There is also research being done on autism benefits. Since MSU is self-funded, it is not required to offer this benefit. There are many unknowns to be considered in the future because of all of the changes that are presently being discussed with the new insurance initiatives. Marilyn complimented Renee Rivard for keeping us up-to-date with all of the changes.

There will be an article in the next newsletter about generic drugs.

Membership Committee Report: There was no report.

Office Management Report: Everything seems to be running all right. We have several new members answering phones.

Data Report: John Forsyth noted that all current MSU employees who use MSU data must sign an affidavit to affirm their legitimate use of MSU data. MSURA has not been contacted. Andy Johansen reported to John that there were 96 “likes” on facebook. There are approximately 40-50 views for each article posted, and a surge of interest when the newsletters come out. But there are only about 1% of membership use.

John mentioned that the ‘old’ computer is not working. He is investigating the problem.

Newsletter: Al LeBlanc is still looking for a sports editor and an ad manager. The fall international newsletter cost $3,097.28, and the December local newsletter cost $400.30.

United Way Report: The was no report.

Old Newsboys Report: There was no report.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Gower for Joan G. Smith