**MSURA Board Meeting Minutes - March 6, 2013**

**The meeting of the MSU Retirees Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on March 6, 2013 in room 125 Nisbet Building.**

**Present: Stephanie Barch, Nancy Craig, John Forsyth, Gale Gower, Jerry Hull, Rosemary Pavlik, Ron Smith, Joan Smith, Bob Wenner, and Darlene Wenner.**

**The minutes of the February 2013 MSURA Board meeting were approved as prepared.**

**Nominations Committee: Jerry Hull reported that the committee had not yet identified a candidate for president. A slate of candidates for the remaining open positions had been selected by the committee with Etta Abrahams as Vice President, Nancy Craig as Member at Large, Gale Gower as Secretary and Bob Wenner as Treasurer. The committee will continue to talk to individuals regarding the position of President and for Secretary, since Gale would prefer not to hold both the Secretary and Office Manager positions.**

**Treasurer’s Report: Bob Wenner distributed the Financial Statement which reflected little activity for the month. He reminded the board that MSURA hosts the Big Ten Conference in 2015 so we will have to begin to think about financial support for that activity although those attending pay a conference registration fee.**

**President’s Report: Ron Smith mentioned that Brenda Spackman attended and took minutes at the March Retiree’s meeting in Florida. Approximately 30 reservations have been received to date for the May annual meeting. The mailing explaining the “Best Doctors service” which is available to retirees was sent by Human Resources and was received by those of us in the local area.**

**Vice President’s Report: Rosemary Pavlik confirmed the March meeting will have Renee Rivard from MSU Human Resources and Jana Jirak, the MSU Chief Pharmacist which we expect to be well attended. The April speaker is expected to be Barbara-Sawyer Koch, the spouse of a MSU retiree, who also served for a number of years on the MSU Board of Trustees. It is expected that staff from Community Volunteer for International Programs (CVIP) will conduct much of the program. Sparty will be joining us for the Annual Meeting and Rosemary is still trying to finalize a date for the Broad Museum tour. When a date has been confirmed it will be announced at the monthly membership meeting(s) and in the e-notices.**

**Health Benefits Committee Report: No Report since the committee has not met.**

 **Membership Committee: Nancy Craig was pleased to report that Rosemary Pavlik has agreed to serve as Volunteer Coordinator for the upcoming year. In this capacity she will correspond with retirees who return their membership interest survey, letting them know what web-site or exactly who to contact in order to volunteer for specific opportunities mentioned on the survey. Likewise, she will contact the campus department with the new retiree’s contact information indicating the individual has expressed interest as a member of MSURA.**

**Nancy reiterated information about the Lugnuts game on June 14, 2013. A ticket purchase form will be included in the upcoming Spartan Senior and will be distributed at the remaining monthly membership meetings.**

**The committee decided that it was unnecessary to offer an incentive, such as a small door prize for members who attend the monthly membership meetings because attendance has been very good at our meetings. We will continue to encourage members to bring a fellow retiree or spouse of a retiree who they may know has not been attending and we will continue to provide diverse programs with wide-ranging interest.**

**Finally, Nancy ask for volunteers to staff the Annual Luncheon hosted by the President of the MSU for retirees with academic rank. The luncheon will be held at Kellogg Center on April 2, 2013.**

**Office Management: Gale Gower passed around an Office Volunteer schedule and ask that Board members let her know if there are items or assistance they need with their responsibilities.**

**Communications Reports: Stephanie Barch indicated that everything seemed to be in order for the upcoming newsletter even though Al was out of town at the moment.**

**John Forsyth reported that during the month (April 2 to March 5, 2013) the MSURA web site had 3900 views and 3300 visits from 1522 different individuals. 65% of the visitors were returning visitors while 32% were new visitors. John was surprised by this level of activity, but indicated that it apparently was accurate. John indicated the downloads from Human Resources are working well now. He also indicated that the “People Search” problem our retirees noted relative to the address and contact information for retirees in an even larger problem than first expected. Essentially, it is no longer possible to find a retirees phone number or address on the MSU people search web site feature even if the retiree has indicated that it may be publically accessible. Similarly, it is no longer possible to determine if the person one is searching for retired from a specific department or at a specific academic rank or tile. This feature was lost in conversion of data to the new EBS system and no solution has yet been found, as the reasons for it are very complex. The University is well aware of the problem since it too is dealing with the issue relative to current employees. There is a long list of priority items that still need to be solved in the new EBS system and this is apparently on that list.**

 **United Way Report: Darlene Wenner indicated that $61, 065 had been collected as of this date. This compares to $65, 034 which was attributed to retiree contributors one year ago.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1 2013.**