**MSURA Board Meeting Minutes – May 1, 2013**

**The meeting of the MSU Retirees Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on May 1, 2013 in room 125 Nisbet Building.**

**Present: Stephanie Barch, David Brower, Nancy Craig, John Forsyth, Gale Gower, Jerry Hull, Anders Johansson, Al LeBlanc, Rosemary Pavlik, Marilyn Rothert, Patrick Scheetz, Ron Smith, Joan Smith, Brenda Spackman, Bob Wenner, Darlene Wenner and Gordon Williams.**

**The minutes of the April 2013 MSURA Board meeting were approved, as corrected**

**Treasurer’s Report: No Report as information was not available via the accounting system. Bob Wenner will distribute both the March and April Treasurer’s Report at the next meeting and he will contact both Larry Cole and Joe Lessard before the next meeting to ask them if they are willing to conduct the audit this year.**

**Development/Budget Report: David reported the proposed budget, with the revision is on the conservative side, but is achievable. A motion to approve the budget was offered, seconded and approved.**

**President’s Report: Ron Smith reviewed the items on the agenda and the details planned for the MSURA Annual Meeting which will take place on Monday, May 6, 2013. Jerry Hull will introduce the slate of officers proposed for the 2013 – 2014 year which includes: Ron Smith as second term President, Etta Abrahams as Vice President, Gale Gower as Secretary and Nancy Craig as Member at Large. He will ask if there are nominations from the floor, close nominations. Ron Smith will call for the vote.**

**Ron Smith, Patrick Scheetz and the rest of the board members congratulated John Forsyth on being selected as Volunteer of the Year due to his outstanding and continuous service to MSURA. For the past several years he has spent an inordinate amount of time working with Human Resources and other University IT personnel converting the old MSURA data base to interface with the new electronic management systems of the University. He has installed systems within the MSURA office to routinely download information, produce email and mailing lists, and analyze data. He can always be counted on to provide a wry sense of humor appreciated by all. Since John and his wife, Gretchen, will be unable to attend the Annual Luncheon due to their participation in Grandparents Day at their grandson’s school in the Chicago area, the award plaque was presented at this meeting. John will be announced as the award recipient at the Annual meeting so board members were asked not to divulge the honoree prior to that time. Everyone was very pleased with the selection of John as our honoree this year.**

**Ron Smith asked those who are interested in attending the Big Ten Retiree’s Associations Conference in Ann Arbor on Aug 9 – 11, 2013 let him know so that he can make sure that they are on the email list for information. A number of board members mentioned that they may be interested in attending for one day of the conference and at least two individuals will attend the entire conference.**

**Vice President’s Report: Rosemary Pavlik indicated at least 38 individuals toured the Board Museum tour.**

**Health Benefits Committee Report: Marilyn Rothert reported that the committee will meet at the end of summer.**

 **Membership Committee: Nancy Craig reported that now that the deadline for Lugnuts Tickets is approaching, requests are coming in . She also indicated that she has been asked to contact the “Give or Take” office which provides clothing for international adults and children on campus. This is a service which has been run by Residence Life, but they are in need of volunteers to staff the office so that it can remain open for longer hours. Nancy received approval of the board to meet with the campus coordinator to determine their needs and bring information back to the board. Apparently, they are looking for longer hours and more consistency in staffing. They would like to find a group willing to commit for a two year period of time.**

 **Office Management: Gale indicated this is the last week the office will be staffed for this academic year. She is pleased with the work of the committee on the Annual Meeting arrangements and believes everything is in order, although she will be thrilled when it is over.**

**Communications Reports: Al LeBlanc reported that the April issue was the smallest of the year and cost only $328.87. The next deadline is May 24th in which the Annual meeting business will be covered. It will be and international, paid mailing. July 26th is the deadline for the August local, paid and unpaid mailing of the newsletter. These will be black and white issues.**

**There was discussion about who will talk with our underwriters for the upcoming year’s newsletters. It was determined Ron and Patrick will talk with both Sharon Butler and Dan Chegwidden. They will also talk with MSUFCU and Al will talk with Straightline.**

**John Forsyth indicated he will continue to update the MSURA database every alternate week throughout the summer. He indicated there were 2298 website hits, of which 37% are new users. There were 2436 hits to the newsletter. This data is obtained via Google Analytics.**

**Anders Johansson was asked to add information about making a donation to MSURA to the website and to Facebook.**

**Gordon Williams indicated that Twitter traffic ranged between 280 and 0 depending upon the message.**

**The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug 21, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the Coral Gables. It will be an informal, breakfast meeting.**