**MSURA Board Meeting Minutes**

**December 4, 2013**

The meeting of the MSU Retirees Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on December 4, 2013, in room 125 Nisbet Building by President Ron Smith.

Present: Ron Smith, Etta Abrahams, Al LeBlanc, John Forsyth, Patrick Scheetz, David Brower, Jerry Hull, Gale Gower, Rosemary Pavlik.

It was moved by Patrick Scheetz and seconded by Jerry Hull to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2013 with corrections. The motion passed.

Development/Budget Items: Bob Wenner was not able to be present so there was no treasurer’s report.

President’s Report: Ron Smith reported on a meeting of Today’s Retirees that discussed the use of computers by retirees. There is a wide range of comfort with computer usage among retirees. John Forsyth wondered if we should offer computer training for members.

Ron would like to begin preliminary planning for the 2015 Big Ten Conference to be held at MSU. Dave Brower, Etta Abrahams and John Forsyth will chair the committee. We need to pick a theme. Ron will go through our files to review previous conferences and planning. Jerry Hull suggested that something could be done on GMOs and human nutrition.

Vice President’s Report: Etta Abrahams reported that everything is set for the December general membership meeting. January’s meeting will feature quilts, and members can bring in any quilts they would like to share. Etta is working to have February’s meeting about Medicare and Medicaid fraud. Gary Hoppenstand will speak at March’s meeting. The MSU Theater Department students will present a short preview of the Summer Circle Theater program at the May 5 Annual Luncheon.

Human Resources Report: There was no report as there was no representative from Human Resources present.

Past President’s Report: Patrick Scheetz suggested that requests for volunteers that come into the office should be forwarded to Gordon Williams and Anders Johanson for posting.

Patrick asked to be contacted if you know anyone who would like to serve on the board next year, or if anyone currently on the board would like to continue in another position.

Health Committee Report: There will be a meeting of the committee on December 10, from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

United Way: Darlene Wenner was not able to be at the meeting so there was no report.

Old Newsboys: The Old Newsboys newspaper sale will be December 5.

Newsletter: Al LeBlanc reported that Stephanie Barch is going to retire. There will be an article in the newsletter thanking her for her service.

Al said that international newsletter mailings go out three times a year. There are seven local newsletter mailings. The local editions do sometimes have information relevant to the international subscribers. MSU is getting rid of its bulk mailing and will be outsourcing that function.

Dave Brower reported on the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Newsletter Printing and Postage Issues that met December 2. The committee discussed the Postal Service regulations covering nonprofit mail eligibility and the differences between ‘advertising’ and ‘sponsorships’. It was concluded that MSURA will not be able to use nonprofit rates going forward, and the committee made several recommendations. Two motions based on these recommendations were made by Patrick Scheetz, seconded by Dave Brower and voted on by the Board and passed:

1. Effective January 1, 2014, the local and international lists be merged so that we mail newsletters to all paid subscribers for all mailings (est 1,100), except for those opting for email delivery.
2. Once a year (August 2014), a paper copy be mailed to all retirees (both paid and unpaid subscribers…Est 4,100). This issue will clarify that if retirees want a paper copy, they must be a subscriber at the set fee.

The current rate of $10.00 a year subscription fee will remain in effect.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.