**MSURA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

October 8, 2014

27 Nisbet Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Present: Al LeBlanc, Marilyn Rothert, Liz Thomas, Angela Brown, Patrick Scheetz, Anders Johanson, Chuck Webb, David Brower, Nancy Craig, Jerry Hull, Gale Gower

Minutes: A motion was made by Angela Brown and seconded by Anders Johanson to accept the minutes from the September 3, 2014 board meeting. The motion passed.

President’s Report:

 Robert’s Rules of Order: Angela Brown distributed a copy of (Simplified) Robert’s Rules of Order, which will be followed at Board meetings.

 Awards Committee: Angela Brown reported for Ron Smith who was not able to attend. She requested that information be distributed to the membership through the newsletter, website and email sources about nominations for the Volunteer of the Year Award. Al LeBlanc, Gordon Williams and Anders Johanson will follow up.

 Request for Committee Assignments: Patrick Scheetz asked the board to forward names of recent retirees to him for possible committee assignments. We need names for future nominations for Vice President and Nominations Chairperson.

 Database Operations Training: Patrick Scheetz asked members to contact John Forsyth if they are interested in receiving training on the retiree members database.

 October Spartan Senior Newsletter: Patrick Scheetz congratulated Al LeBlanc on the October newsletter, calling it one of the best published by Al.

Treasurer’s Report: David Brower handed out corrected financial statements for August. Based on a review of the last three months, David said that the organization appears to be in good financial shape.

There is no auditor’s report yet for the previous year.

Dave will investigate the cost of producing and mailing newsletters for 4, 8 and 12 pages with the hope of having enough space to include a donations form in each future issue of the newsletter. Anders Johanson will look into making a weblink for future newsletters so members can print the donations form off their own computers.

Chuck Webb will check with University Development for information on how much retirees have contributed to the University in past years.

Vice President’s Report: Angela Brown announced that the Big Ten Retirees Conference Planning Committee will meet on Monday, October 20, at 10:00 a.m. at Coral Gables.

Human Resources Report: There was no report.

Past President’s Report: There was no report.

Health Benefits Committee Report: Marilyn Rothert reported that the committee met on September 16 with Renee Rivard from Human Resources, who updated the committee on the 2015 benefits package for Open Enrollment. There was a zero percent increase in health care costs over all this past year for retirees. One change for the coming year will be an additional charge for those retirees enrolled with Aetna Dental. There may be information in the future from MSU Human Resources about discounts for hearing aides.

Dave Brower will chair a meeting on compound medicines and specialty medicines.

Gary Stone reported to the committee about the Faculty Health Care Committee that is trying to establish an on-site clinic for easier access and flexible hours for staff and retirees.

Marilyn said that Renee Rivard will attend the next MSURA board meeting and respond to questions about health care benefits.

Marilyn will prepare an article for the newsletter and the website about retiree feedback to the University on health care issues.

Membership Committee Report: Nancy Craig reported that the Lugnuts have inquired if we would like to reserve a date for next year. It was discussed that we should reserve a date similar to this year’s, which was June 19.

Development Fund Report: Chuck Webb reported that there has been acknowledgement for those retiree who have donated to the organization. Donations go through the University, then support MSURA.

Newsletter Report: Al LeBlanc reported that the deadline for the November/December newsletter is October 10. He needs phone numbers for Board members for the spring edition, if he does not already have them. He would like a discussion of the requested announcement policy to clarify some issues with it. He reported that our newsletter is emailed to the other Big Ten retiree organizations. Extra paper copies of newsletters will be taken to future speaker meetings of the MSURA for distribution.

IT Database Management: Please contact John Forsyth if interested in learning about operations of the revised retiree database program.

eNotices Operations: There was no report.

Interest Group News: There was no report.

Website and Facebook Operations: Anders Johanson reported that Facebook has a total of 159 “likes” at this time. The website gets hits from about 30-40 people per day.

Office Management: Liz Thomas reported that the schedule for office coverage is almost full for October.

United Way: Donations are still coming in and there is no total yet.

Old News Boys Report: There was no report.

There were no other items for discussion at the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by,

Gale Gower

Secretary, Board of Directors

MSU Retirees Association