

Dates to Remember, January 8, 2025 Board Meeting

- January 10, 11 am, Lunch at Brody
- January 13, 1:30 pm, memb'p meeting, Tri-County Office on Aging
- January 23, Wharton Center Tour, Eric Olmscheid, arrive at 1:30 pm, tour at 2 pm
- February 5, 10 am, **next board meeting**
- February 10, 1:30 pm, memb'p meeting, Lansing Area and the Civil War, Matt VanAcker
- February 14, 11 am, Lunch at Brody

MSURA Board Meeting Minutes: January 8, 2025, 10 am

In attendance: Dave Brower, Angie Brown, Bob Patterson, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Bill Anderson, Dan Mackey, Rick Vogt, Bill Humphrey, John Forsyth, Kate Wight, Mike Gardner, Liz Lawrence

Called to Order: 10:02 am

Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote

- Donation related to CPR & AED Skills Training: K. Wight moved to donate \$200; this was seconded by M. Gardner. Motion carried.

Review/Approve Minutes of December 4, 2024 Meeting

Motion to approve minutes made by R. Vogt and seconded by M. Gardner; minutes were approved.

President's Report (Dave Brower)

- D. Brower, B. Anderson, B. Smith, and R. Vogt will attend the mid-year Zoom meeting of the Big 10 Retiree Association, hosted by U of M, at 2 pm on 1-30-2025.
- D. Brower asked for agenda items that he will forward to U of M for the meeting.
- The Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at the University Club. The Annual Meeting will be announced in the April / May newsletter.

Vice-President's Report (Angie Brown)

The Tri-County Office on Aging (Kayla Nichols and Heather Febres-Cordero) will present at the January membership meeting. Gift cards (BYOB) will again be distributed.

Treasurer's Report (Bill Humphrey)

December 2024 revenues totaled \$2,800.42, \$2,400 of which was submitted by Advancement for underwriting fees. Expenditures totaled \$536.03. The largest expense was printing fees for the newsletter, at \$204.23.

Through December 31, 2024, revenues totaled \$13,420.47; expenditures totaled \$14,300.21, resulting in a deficit of \$879.74. Assets total \$35,419.07.

As of December 31, 2024, the MSURA Endowment's balance is \$210,109.16, an increase of \$2,350. The balance of the income account is \$11,479.77, which does not reflect spring scholarships.

Angie Brown moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. M. Gardner seconded. Report was approved.

MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey, Rick Vogt and Liz Lawrence [Health Care Committee])

- Retirees who are non-Medicare and therefore who will be covered by Personify Health should have received or will soon be receiving new cards. One card will cover all needs. Personify Health and Humana have partnered to ease the transition.
- Retirees who will be turning 65 during 2025 will be notified about the need to sign up for Medicare two to three months prior to their birthdates, at which time they will be covered by Humana Medicare Advantage.
- Under MSU's group plan for its Humana Medicare Advantage Plan any provider who accepts Medicare should accept the Humana card. Some out of network providers have agreed to bill directly to Humana. All providers should bill Humana directly, at Medicare rates.

Annual Meeting, May 7, 2025, MSU University Club (Pam Marcus, Liz Thomas)

The annual meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, with MSU President Guskiewicz as keynote speaker. P. Marcis and L. Thomas will meet with committee soon to decide on menu. Details about the menu options and the cost will be known in time to submit the annual meeting registration form for publication in the April / May newsletter.

Scholarship Committee (Bruce Smith)

- In line with B Smith's desire to do more to promote our scholarships, A. Brown prepared a letter that Bruce has sent electronically to several groups within the university, with the objective of increasing the number and diversity of applicants.
- Four scholarships, each at \$2500, will be awarded in 2025.
- Still pending -- The committee will discuss the practicality of adding a scholarship or increasing the amount of the scholarships in future years.

Volunteer of the Year Award, Nominations (Bill Anderson)

- Request for nominations for Volunteer of the Year Award will first appear in the February / March Newsletter, and will be announced at the membership meetings. All submissions must be in by March 29, 2025.
- The award will again be a certificate and a \$100 gift card for the State Room.
- The challenge of attracting more people willing to serve on the board continues. B. Anderson and D. Brower will think about this as we again need to complete a nomination slate prior to the annual meeting.

Membership (Jacqie Babcock) / Volunteers** and Interest Groups** (Chris DeFouw)**

- Short term: Committee will discuss offering t-shirts, polo shirts, or something similar, to MSURA members. In addition to A. Brown, likely committee members will be: B. Humphrey; J. Babcock; M. Gardner; C. Pell; R. Vogt. Committee will pursue:
 - T- shirt, golf shirt, or sweatshirt? Or a combination of these?
 - Design: How elaborate? Include a slogan?
 - Cost: Sell at cost or increase the cost, with the difference going to fund a scholarship?
 - Time-frame: Have shirts available for sale at annual meeting or before?
- Long term: Committee viewed a presentation by Shop MSU that provided a look at all that they offer. Tabled for future study (via Survey Monkey or something similar) and discussion is the possibility of our contracting with them to offer much more than just shirts. If we became more engaged with them they would handle the marketing, the acquisition, the sales, the financials, the mailing, help with licensing (if required), and make recommendations about quantities and sizes.
- A. Brown will send out a link for the Shop MSU presentation.

Events Committee (Chris DeFouw, Bill Anderson, Jacqie Babcock, Pam Marcis)**

- **MSU SAFE Place Wrap-Up:** The wrap party was well attended. All requests on the family's lists were filled.
- **The Wharton Center Tour** will be on January 23, 2025. It is unknown at this time whether performers or crew for "Shucked" will be available to interact with those present for the tour.
- **CPR & AED Skills**, scheduled for April 16, 2025, 2 to 4 pm: Mike Garland will provide the training. A maximum of 40 people will be in attendance. As a thank you for allowing us to use their meeting room, we will save four spots for employees of MSUFCU. J. Forsyth will notify the Emeriti group about the training. As a thank you to Mike Garland for his time, effort, and interest in providing training we will donate \$200 to his organization. K. Wight moved to donate the \$200; M. Gardner seconded. Motion approved.

Retiree Lunch on Campus (Mike Gardner)

Lunch at Brody will take place on January 10, 2025 and February 14, 2025. Brody will be open only from 11 to 1 on the January date.

Communications/Underwriters (Cheryl Pell, Rick Vogt, Jacqie Babcock)**

- An e-Notice will go out this week. The deadline for the Feb / Mar newsletter is 1-10-25.
- Underwriting revenues from Humana and Health Team are still pending. They will be contacted in January / February.
- We can expect an additional \$1600 in underwriting revenues from Personify Health. They will be submitting an ad for each of the remaining newsletters, 2024-2025. Next year we can expect to receive closer to \$2800 from them, assuming they renew their request for the time period 2025-2026.

Office Management (Liz Thomas) Nothing to report

MSURA Technology, website, Facebook (John Forsyth, Cheryl Pell, Bruce Smith, Rick Vogt)

J. Forsyth will add the Volunteer of the Year nomination form to the website after B. Anderson revises the form to incorporate the changes voted on during the December meeting.

Other Items

Thank you, Bob and Liz, for joining us!

Next Meeting: February 5, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

** See additional information in attachment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight
MSURA Secretary

January 9, 2025

Report Submitted by J. Babcock

Events

The outing to Williamston Theatre in December was well attended. Several members of the production, one of the actors, director, costume designer and Tony Caselli, co-founder of Williamston Theatre, joined the group after the performance and answered questions for about a half hour. Several attendees also attended Zynda's after the performance for dinner and lively conversation. I am not sure of the total number at the play because individuals purchased their own tickets but there were 17 reserved for the restaurant. I sent an email following the date thanking participants for attending. I received two messages stating they had a good time. Four of the participants were recent retirees.

Membership

"Thank you for attending" messages were sent to all attendees who signed the registration form for monthly meetings for fall semester." Thank you for participating" messages were sent to all individuals who signed in for BYOB, both new attendees and the individual who brought them to the meeting. Two people responded about how much they enjoy the speakers this year and catching up with others attending.

A welcoming email message was sent to recent retirees for 2024 through mid-October – the latest list which was available. (I will work with John Forsyth to obtain any new information since that time.) There were 238 names on the list (two were from late December 2023.) I am keeping track of any returned messages or non-deliverable messages and when there is a large enough pool a hard copy mailing will be arranged. Items sent were a letter from Dave as President and me as Membership Chair. Also attached was the two-page MSURA brochure which was reformatted as a PDF by Cheryl, a page asking people to sign up for various tasks they might be interested in to return to me, and a list of upcoming activities for spring.

Underwriters

I notified the underwriters for the February MSURA newsletter of the January 10 deadline for their information to be sent to Rick and Cheryl.

Membership Meeting

I will be in attendance at the January 13 membership meeting per Chris DeFouw's email. As part of the speaker committee, I made the contact with Tri-County Aging participants and information has been sent to them about the space, arrival time, etc. Bios have been sent to Eric Crawford for introduction (by Chris DeFouw).

Events

Chris, Pam, Dave and I have a meeting scheduled for January 16 to talk further about potential spring/summer events. Diana Priebe has offered to join us to talk about a bus trip to the Detroit area, as well.

FYI

I will be leaving for Florida sometime during the last week of January. I will not return until sometime the first week of April (depends on driving plans). I will continue with underwriters via email and email new retirees when a list becomes available and work on events as needed.

Report Submitted by C. DeFouw

Volunteer Report

> Jacqie Babcock, Gale Gower and Eric Crawford will be assisting at the January 13 Membership Meeting.

Special Interest Groups Report

> Need to confirm date of the Annual Luncheon. Once date is confirmed, will start contacting the Special Interest Group leaders so they can prepare.

Special Events Report (Jacqie Babcock, Pam Marcis, Ralph Pyle, Chris DeFouw)

> Upcoming Scheduled:

> January 23, 2025 Wharton Center Tour, Dave Brower

> April 16, 2025 Saving Lives by Learning CPR & AED Skills, Bill Anderson

> July 11, 2025 MSU Planterium, Pink Floyd "Dark Side of Moon" and short Star Talk, Chris DeFouw

> August 15, 2025 Lugnuts Game and Dinner, Dave Brower

> Removed from Schedule:

> March 2025 MSU Football Building Tour, Chris DeFouw, unable to make contact to schedule

> To be Scheduled:

> May/June 2025 Bus trip to Detroit, Jacqie Babcock & Pam Marcis

> July 9, 2025 Carillon Concert

> Completed:

> July 10, 2024 Brunch at Newman Lofts

> August 16, 2024 Lugnuts Game, Dave Brower

> September 10, 2024 Michigan Capitol Tour, Pam Marcis

> October 18, 2024 Homecoming Parade, Bill Anderson

> December 8, 2024 Williamston Theatre & Dinner @ Zynda's, Jacqie Babcock

> December 2024 Safe Place Gift Collection, Bill Anderson

> December 17, 2024 Wrap Party, Bill Anderson