

Dates to Remember, February 5, 2025 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
- March 5, 10 am, **next board meeting**
- March 10, 1:30 pm, memb'p meeting, WKAR and the State of Public Media, Shawn Turner
- March 13, 2 pm, Financial Planning Seminar with StraightLine, Mike Bisaro and Team, via Zoom
- March 14, 11 am, Lunch at Brody

MSURA Board Meeting Minutes: February 5, 2025, 10 am

In attendance: Dave Brower, Bob Patterson, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Bill Anderson, Chris DeFouw, Cheryl Pell, Dan Mackey, Rick Vogt, Barb Szkotnicki, Bill Humphrey, John Forsyth, Kate Wight, Liz Lawrence

Called to Order: 10:02 am

Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote No decisions required a vote

Review/Approve Minutes of January 8, 2025 Meeting

Motion to approve minutes was made by R. Vogt and seconded by J. Forsyth; minutes were approved.

President's Report (Dave Brower)

- BTRA January meeting: Three new members have joined. They are: the University of California, LA; the University of Southern California; and the University of Washington.
- The BTRA Annual Meeting will be hosted by the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor August 5 through August 7, 2025. We will send two or three to represent us.
- We must begin preliminary discussions, particularly related to the budget, regarding the 2027 BTRA Annual Meeting which we will be hosting. Formerly (2022-2023) the following had expressed an interest in participating in initial conversations related to planning: A. Brown; J. Babcock; D. Brower; R. Vogt. B. Smith is also interested in participating.
- Looking towards setting up a link with Advancement/Development and the MSU Alumni Association – Madison Dugan, Senior Director of Development, will join us briefly during our March meeting. Key topics will include where the university is headed and how might we (MSURA) interact?
- An invitation to the Alumni Association to speak at our April meeting will involve them in this effort.

Vice-President's Report (Angie Brown)

All is set for the February monthly meeting. Matt VanAcker, Emeritus Director, Capital Tours, Education and Information Services for the State of Michigan's Capitol, will discuss the Lansing area's role in the Civil War. Gift cards (BYOB) will again be distributed.

Treasurer's Report (Bill Humphrey)

January revenues totaled \$236.46. Expenditures totaled \$435.80. The largest expense was university postage fees, at \$279.60. Through January 31, 2025, revenues totaled \$13,656.93; expenditures totaled \$14,736.01, resulting in a deficit of \$1,079.08. Assets total \$35,219.73. As of January 31, 2025, the MSURA Endowment's balance is \$211,234.16, an increase of \$1,125. The balance of the income account is \$7,729.77, which reflects spring scholarships of \$3,750.

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

**MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey),
Rick Vogt [Health Care Committee]****

- As a result of challenges that retirees are experiencing with the Humana Medicare Advantage plan, HR will look at alternatives. Four entities have responded to HR's Request for Information initiative. The objective is to get information about market place options.
- The four RFI meetings are currently scheduled early in the week beginning 2-10-2025.
- Several MSURA representatives will sit in on the RFI's via Zoom. The health benefits committee will meet Friday, February 7, to develop a list of questions for the RFI's. The committee includes: R. Vogt; J. Forsyth; L. Sells; L. Lawrence; B. Szkotnicki.
- Note: 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 Marcis, Liz Thomas)

- The menu will be soup and salad with options for adding chicken or salmon, or requesting vegan. A cookie will be served for dessert. The cost to attendees will be \$30. The University Club will charge \$36 per plate. The annual meeting registration form will be included in the April / May newsletter.
- StraightLine will sponsor at \$2,500.

Scholarship Committee (Bruce Smith)

- To get the word out regarding the scholarships, B. Smith has notified the unions about requirements for the scholarship, as well as publishing requirements in the newsletter and e-Notices.
- Four scholarships, each at \$2500, will be awarded in 2025.

Volunteer of the Year Award, Nominations (Bill Anderson)

- Request for nominations for Volunteer of the Year Award are in the February / March Newsletter, and will be announced at the membership meetings. All submissions must be in by the end of March 2025. Nominations have not been received as of this time.
- The award will again be a certificate and a \$100 gift card for the State Room.

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

- Short term: C. Pell shared possible designs for a polo shirt, a hoody, and a t-shirt. This will be addressed further in March. Committee: A. Brown; B. Humphrey; J. Babcock; M. Gardner; C. Pell; R. Vogt. Committee is pursuing:
 - 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?

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

- **The Wharton Center Event** was attended by 34 individuals. Eric Olmscheid shared highlights about Wharton Center's history, community outreach initiatives, and future plans. The Company Director for "Shucked", Dhyana Colony, shared her perspective on successfully moving a Broadway company around the country. Thanks to Ralph Pyle for handling registrations.
- **CPR & AED Skills**, scheduled for April 16, 2025, 2 to 4 pm: Mike Garland will provide the training. Approximately 35 (including the four spots we have set aside for MSUFCU employees) have signed up. At least five open spots remain. C. DeFouw and Brenda Vogt will assist.
- **Carillon Event**, scheduled for July 9, 2025. A thank you event for all volunteers will precede the Carillon event. More planning will occur during March.
- **Bus Trip**, summer 2025, planning with Diana Priebe continues.

Retiree Lunch on Campus (Mike Gardner)

Lunch at Brody will take place on February 14, 2025 and March 14, 2025, at 11 am.

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

- Postage rates are again increasing. The cost for sending out a 24 page vs. an eight page newsletter is the same. In planning ahead for the August / September newsletter (deadline is July 4, 2025), R. Vogt asked for ideas about what additional content might be included.
- C. Pell is looking for a replacement for JaTasia, who graduates this spring; C. Pell again appealed to us for retirees whose stories can be highlighted in the Spotlight article of the newsletter.
- Underwriting revenues from Personify Health, Humana and Health Team are pending.

Office Management (Liz Thomas) Nothing to report

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

Other Items No new items

Thank you, Barb, for joining us!

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 am.

** See additional information in attachment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight
MSURA Secretary

February 26, 2025

Report submitted by R. Vogt

Benefits Committee

The Mercer Report has submitted the following data (annual numbers) related to MSU Retirees.

6868 MSU Retirees & Dependents Medicare Advantage,

997 MSU Retirees & Dependents Non-Medicare Advantage

2083 MSU Employees Working Potentially Eligible for Retiree Healthcare Benefits; Have a hire date prior to July 1, 2010. (This number was provided by a source other than Mercer.)

9948 Total Retirees & Potential Retirees and Dependents Eligible for Retiree Healthcare Benefit.

MSU Cost for Retiree Healthcare Insurance

\$18.0 Million for Medicare Population, averaging \$2,615 per contract Annual

\$22.4 Million for Non-Medicare Population, averaging \$22, 884 per contract Annual

\$40.4 Million Total for Both

What Do Retirees Pay?

* Retirees each pay \$175 a month from the social security (automatically deducted) for Medicare Part B Premiums. The premium is based upon your income so some retirees pay more.

* Retirees paid for medicare through payroll taxes while working. Amounts very depending on income.

* Retirees while working gave up salary increase dollars for this benefit. I do not have a dollar amount that was given for retiree benefit, but I am working on getting some good numbers. As many of you may remember the negotiations for years were that we have this pot of money, you can get it all as salary increases or less salary increase and keep the healthcare and retiree healthcare.

Report Submitted by C. DeFouw

Volunteer Report

Cindy Roach and Eric Crawford will be assisting at the February 10 Membership Meeting.

Special Interest Groups Report

Have contacted the Special Interest Group leaders regarding having a representative at a table during registration at the May 7 Annual Luncheon. Request for response is March 31. So far 2 have responded yes.

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

Upcoming Scheduled:

April 16, 2025 Saving Lives by Learning CPR & AED Skills, Bill Anderson, currently 25 people are registered not including 4 MSUFCU reserved slots

July 11, 2025 MSU Planetarium, 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 Volunteer Thank You prior to Carillon Concert, Jacqie Babcock & Dave Brower

July 9, 2025 Carillon Concert, Jacqie Babcock

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

January 23, 2025 Wharton Center Tour, Dave Brower