

### **Dates to Remember, January 3, 2024 Board Meeting**

- January 8, Monday, 1:30 pm, memb'p meeting, Stephen Terry, MSU History and Postcard Pictures
- January 12, Friday, 11:30 am, informal retiree lunch at Brody
- February 7, Wednesday, 10 am, next board meeting
- February 9, Friday, R.E. Olds Transportation Museum guided tour; lunch following at Brody
- February 12, Monday, memb'p meeting, Valerie Marvin, Art in the Capitol

### **MSURA Board Meeting minutes: January 3, 2024, 10 am, Hybrid (In-person and Via Zoom)**

In attendance: Jacqie Babcock, Bruce Smith, Rick Vogt, Dave Brower, Angie Brown, Mike Gardner, Bill Anderson, John Forsyth, Dan Mackey, Pam Marcis, Kate Wight, Roger Baldwin

Called to Order: 10:02 am

### **Review/Approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting December 6, 2023**

Minutes amended to add officer names and to designate responsible person to complete resolution adopted at December meeting. Motion to approve amended minutes by B. Smith, seconded by M. Gardner; minutes approved as amended.

### **President's Report\* (Jacqie Babcock)**

See attached.

### **Vice President's Report (Rick Vogt)**

- Membership Meetings
  - January 8: J. Babcock will ensure that the membership meeting bag (with name tags, brochures, pens, masks) is at the meeting; D. Brower will ensure the bag is returned to office if that is necessary.
  - February 12: P. Marcis will introduce speaker, Valerie Marvin. Related to this speaker, J. Babcock moved to donate \$100 to the Michigan State Capitol Commission; D. Brower seconded. Motion passed.
  - We will provide coffee, creamer, napkins at future meetings.
  - C. Pell will announce the Bring Your Own Buddy Program (BYOB). B. Anderson will purchase the prizes for participating in the program (\$5 Biggby coffee cards)
  - Another incentive under consideration is the distribution of raffle tickets to all attendees at the membership meetings. The raffle ticket chosen will receive two meal tickets for dining at any one of the campus venues. This is pending commitment from Culinary Services.
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary -- See more below, under **Annual Meeting** Report

### **Past President's Report (Roger Baldwin)**

The three year period set for donations to our scholarship fund will end on March 31, 2024. Moving forward on April 1, R. Baldwin is considering whether any changes should be made to the program or our approach to promoting it.

### **Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower)**

D. Brower will complete financial reports this week, once statements are received.

The Lugnuts' outing date will be determined in the future, after the season schedule is available.

### **MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey)**

- D. Mackey clarified that for the 400 or so retirees who received invoices for Delta Dental's new Premium Plan, MSU must receive a paper check to cover the payment. It is not possible to make the payment electronically. It is possible to make arrangements with the credit union to send checks at intervals chosen by the retiree (monthly, quarterly, annually). The CU nine-digit zip code and retiree's four-digit account number from the invoice must be included.
- The new Director of Benefits, HR, Mary Lou Morey, stopped in. She introduced herself, shared her background, and answered questions.

### **Nominations and Leadership for 2024-2025 (Jacqie Babcock)**

J. Babcock confirmed that the offices of President, Vice President, and two At-Large positions (B. Anderson and B. Smith) will be open for the coming year. B. Anderson and B. Smith agreed to be named on the nomination slate as At-Large board members. Past presidents will meet January 9, 2024, to discuss approaches to making officer positions more desirable / attractive.

### **Annual Meeting, May 7, 2024 – MSU University Club (Pam Marcis, Liz Thomas)**

- M. Gardner will pursue other options for keynote speaker. Several other options are under consideration, and will be pursued. They include: new football coach, John Smith; women's basketball coach, Robyn Fralick; former assistant to head coach for basketball, Mike Garland; a 'historian' able to talk about the historical beginning of Sparty.
- As part of ending the celebration of MSURA's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, P. Marcis has invited Sparty. Photo opps with Sparty may be offered. A slide show of photos taken at past events and/or a pamphlet sharing MSURA history are also possibilities. The \$300 charged for Sparty will come out of the budget for the annual meeting.
- The committee will meet on January 18, and will discuss: the menu, including dessert; table decorations; required budget for submission to D. Brower; volunteer needs; whether there will be a raffle and possible give-aways.
- J. Babcock offered to locate and invite living past presidents. Those in attendance would be introduced.

### **Events Committee\* (Christina DeFouw)**

See attached report for events planned.

### **Scholarship Committee (Angie Brown) and Scholarship Fundraising (Roger Baldwin)**

- The two committees will work together to discuss options for moving forward with scholarships. R. Baldwin and A. Brown will present their ideas to the board.
- In the near term, D. Brower does not foresee recommending a fourth scholarship in the amount of \$2500, though we may consider increasing the amount of our scholarships.

**Volunteer of the Year Award\* (Bill Anderson)**

First committee meeting will be January 17, 2024. A draft announcement soliciting candidates will be finalized; after review and approval it will be included in future e-Notices and newsletters.

**Retiree Meals on Campus (Mike Gardner)**

Next lunches will be on January 12<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup>.

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

D. Brower will follow up with MSU Healthcare, still an unpaid underwriter. J. Babcock will contact the School of Music, as they have agreed during spring semester to underwrite MSURA in past years.

**Office Management (Liz Thomas)** Nothing to report

**MSURA Technology, website, Facebook (John Forsyth, Anders Johanson)** Nothing to report

**Announcements**

Upcoming AROHE event will be advertised in upcoming e-Notice.

J. Forsyth moved to adjourn; M. Gardner seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

\*See attached for additional report information.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight  
MSURA Secretary

January 5, 2024

## **President's Report (Jacqie Babcock)**

Happy New Year, everyone. Let's make it a good one

The MSU Military History group is putting together a special presentation in March. The date is not yet confirmed due to confirmation from the MSUFCU for the meeting space.

The past presidents are meeting on January 9 to talk about leadership continuity. Meanwhile, I hope everyone is thinking about their role in the coming year and how we can move forward with leadership.

Liz, Chris, Pam and I will be meeting on January 17 to go over materials to send to new retirees. John has been sending me the lists and I will continue to make the first contacts via email. As discussed at an earlier board meeting, we will keep a list of returned e-mails and send hard copy letters and materials (membership brochure, upcoming events, etc.) via US mail. In the previous newsletter my President's note asked for volunteers and Cindy Roach did contact me and volunteered to participate in putting together mailings. This makes me think that asking for volunteers for specific tasks works better than asking for volunteers in general so I would encourage committee and event chairs to ask for help in specific ways.

Angie and I are scheduled to have lunch with The University of Michigan retirees group on January 11.

I hope to be able to lead the February and March board meetings via Zoom from Florida. As a heads up, I may not be able to manage the April 3 board meeting as I expect I will be driving back from Florida. I'll have a better sense of this as return travel plans come together in March.

Jacqie Babcock

## **Events Committee Report (Jacqie Babcock, Chris DeFouw, Pam Marcis)**

### **> Upcoming Special Events:**

>> February 9, 2024 R.E. Olds Transportation Museum guided tour. For those who are interested, after tour join group at Brody for lunch. Registration information is in e-Notices and will be in January Newsletter.

>> April 10, 2024 Meijer Garden for butterfly display and Gerald Ford Museum (bus trip). Save the date announcement is in e-Notices and will be in January Newsletter. Registration information will be in February/March Newsletter.

>> In January/early February expect to set dates for:

>> June 2024 Night Demonstration at the MSU Observatory

>> July 2024 Newman Lofts Brunch

>> Still on the list for Late Fall 2024/Early Winter 2025 Michigan Capitol Tour

## **Volunteer of the Year Award Report**

In December, at the request of Jacqie Babcock, a committee was formed to manage the annual MSURA Volunteer of the Year Award. Subcommittee members are William Anderson (chair), Roger Baldwin, Angela Brown, and Christine Defouw. To date, we have reviewed the MSURA Mission Statement, the award criteria and selection process, and the list of past award recipients. We have agreed to meet on January 17 to finalize a draft announcement soliciting potential nominees for this year's award. Once approved, the announcement should be placed in the MSURA Newsletter and E-notices.