

Dates to Remember, February 7, 2024 Board Meeting

- February 9, Friday, 10:30 am, R.E. Olds Transportation Museum guided tour; lunch following at Brody
- February 9, Friday, 11:30 am, retiree lunch at Brody
- February 12, Monday, 1:30 pm, Memb'p Meeting, Valerie Marvin, Art in the Capitol
- February 13 and 27, Tuesday, Parts 2 and 3 of AROHE web series
- March 6, Wednesday, 10 am, Board Meeting
- March 11, 1:30 pm, Memb'p Meeting, Dina Maneval, Falcon Whisperer
- March 12, 1:30 pm, Military History Group special event, Michael Unsworth, "Floating Vengeance: Japan's World War II Balloon Attack on Michigan"

MSURA Board Meeting minutes: February 7, 2024, 10 am, Hybrid (In-person and Via Zoom)

In attendance: Bruce Smith, Rick Vogt, Dave Brower, Angie Brown, John Forsyth, Dan Mackey, Chris DeFouw, Roger Baldwin, Liz Thomas, Cheryl Pell, Kate Wight, Jacqie Babcock, Mike Gardner

Called to Order: 10:00 am

Review/Approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting January 3, 2024

Motion to approve minutes by J. Forsyth, seconded by M. Gardner; minutes approved.

Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote*

C. Pell discussed her proposal to create a program booklet (8 pages) that will capture the highlights of MSURA's 75 years; program booklet will be provided to attendees of the May 7 Annual Luncheon. A PDF of the booklet will be available to all retirees. A committee of four is researching the 75 year history: N. Craig; A. Brown; C. Pell; R. Vogt. Estimated cost for the booklet is \$600. B. Smith moved to add \$600 to the budget to cover the cost of printing the booklet; M. Gardner seconded. Motion approved.

President's Report* (Jacqueline Babcock)

See attached.

Vice President's Report (Rick Vogt)

Everything is set for our February Membership Meeting. Pam Marcis will introduce the speaker, Valerie Marvin, who will discuss Art in the Capitol. Incentives for attracting more members will continue (\$5 Biggby coffee cards and a raffle drawing for Eat at State tickets).

Past President's Report (Roger Baldwin)

The two scholarship committees have met and will continue to meet together for the present time. See notes below under **Scholarship Committee and Scholarship Fundraising** section.

Treasurer's Report* (Dave Brower)

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report by K. Wight; seconded by R. Vogt. Treasurer's Report approved.

The Lugnuts' outing date will be Friday, August 16, 2024. Ticket order forms will be available at the February membership meeting.

MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey)

D. Mackey reported that the RFP process for finding a replacement for Humana is well under way. He expects that a decision will be made and a contract signed by the end of March. This will allow time to prepare for the rollout of the new plan during the fall enrollment period. R. Vogt and D. Brower will represent MSURA.

Nominations and Leadership for 2024-2025 (Jacqueline Babcock)

J. Babcock confirmed that discussions she has initiated with past presidents to promote leadership continuity are ongoing. She emphasized that she will not be president for an additional year, but will continue to contribute time and effort towards other board positions.

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

- Mike Garland has agreed to be keynote speaker for the annual meeting.
- An 8 page program booklet, in recognition of MSURA's 75 year history will be given to attendees, as described in the **Item(s) Requiring Discussion and a Vote** section above.
- The menu is set. As in the past, non-vegetarian and vegetarian options will be offered. Dessert will be cinnamon bread pudding, prepared by the University Club. A punch bowl will also be available.
- The cost to each paying attendee will be \$30.
- If the Alumni Office approves our request, Sparty will be present from about 11:15 am to noon.
- The menu selection, punch bowl, the dessert, Sparty, and the program booklet are all special expenses in celebration of MSURA's 75th anniversary.
- To help offset these additional expenses D. Brower will ask Straightline for more support, above the \$2,000 that they have contributed in previous years.
- D. Brower will keep a list of reservations, paying and complimentary; J. Forsyth will make name tags.
- C. Pell will send luncheon reservation form to A. Johanson for posting on the website.
- A final count will be given to the University Club three days prior to the event.

Events Committee* (Christina DeFouw)

- C. DeFouw provided an update for event at the R. E. Olds Transportation Museum on February 9, 2024. Twenty-eight people have RSVP'd for the guided tour; ten people have indicated they plan to have lunch at Brody following the event.
- Registration forms for April and June events will be available at future membership meetings.

BYOB (Cheryl Pell, Bill Anderson)

Incentives to increase participation appear to be working. Eleven Biggby cards were distributed and Eat at State tickets were given away at the January meeting.

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

- The two committees have agreed that they will continue to support four scholarships at \$2500.
- They would like fundraising to continue until all four scholarships are endowed.
- A. Brown advised that future programs to raise funds should be set up for one year, not three years.
- A. Brown confirmed with Ben Brown that scholarships in the amount of \$2500 are still relevant.
- Whether or not to increase scholarship amounts may be discussed in the future.
- A. Brown has made attempts to get feedback from our current four scholarship recipients. She has received no response. She will continue trying.

Volunteer of the Year Award* (Bill Anderson)

An announcement soliciting candidates has been finalized; nomination forms will be available at the February membership meeting.

Retiree Meals on Campus (Mike Gardner)

Next lunches will be on February 9th and March 8th.

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

- C. Pell still requires people who are willing to be featured in the Spotlight section of the newsletter.
- ALL underwriters have met their commitment for the 2023-2024 year.
- D. Brower suggested that to continue to meet expenses we will need to pursue finding more underwriters AND/OR increase the fee for existing underwriters.

Office Management (Liz Thomas) Nothing to report

MSURA Technology, website, Facebook (John Forsyth, Anders Johanson)

B. Smith indicated an interest in assuming A. Johanson's role in maintaining the website.

Announcements

The first AROHE event scheduled for January 30th, which was one segment of a three part web series, went well. The remaining two segments will take place on February 13th and February 27th.

J. Forsyth moved to adjourn; R. Vogt seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:07 am.

*See attached for additional report information.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight
MSURA Secretary

February 8, 2024

President's Report (Jacqueline Babcock)

First of all, what didn't happen. Due to weather concerns, Angie Brown and I did not travel to Ann Arbor for the UM Retirees Association luncheon on January 11. We are rescheduled to go to their April 11 luncheon in Ann Arbor.

The past presidents met and are looking at officer descriptions to lessen the duties and look at ways to spread out responsibilities. A list of the last five years of retirees is being reviewed to identify individuals who might be approached to take on some specific responsibilities or board activities. The search for leadership is intertwined with having more volunteers. Working in groups and committees is less work for individuals. I believe we are seeing new faces as attendees at monthly meetings, special events, Broady lunches, and as volunteers.

Work continues on materials to be sent electronically to new retirees. A second follow up via US mail will take place for any emails returned as undeliverable. Cheryl Pell, Chris DeFouw and I met for lunch Jan 17. Cheryl is reformatting the MSURA brochure to make it more presentable to send electronically. The "volunteer interest" sheet is also being updated. Thank you to those who responded to the first draft with comments. Materials will include: letter, brochure, interest sheet, and a list of upcoming activities. We have three volunteers who are willing to help with mailings. I will have that finalized soon.

Thank you to those who responded to Public Safety's proposal for virtual parking stickers for retirees. Comments have been forwarded. It is my understanding that virtual parking permits are being rolled out in stages. Some graduate student permits have been issued, retirees are the next group to be implemented and eventually all employees will be included in this process.

Arrangements are in place for a June 2 bus trip to Meadowbrook Hall (tour and lunch) and Meadowbrook Theatre to see the musical, ELLA. MSURA is working with MSU Friends of Theatre to fill the bus. The flyer and registration form are close to being finalized.

The College of Music was contacted about underwriting in the last two issues of the MSURA newsletter. There has been no response.

MSURA has been invited by HR to send two representatives to attend presentations by the finalists in the Retiree Health Care RFP. Exact times are not finalized, but possible dates are 2/12, 2/13/ and 2/14. Rick Vogt will be one representative and a second person will be named soon.

Brenda Spackman left a voice mail and sent an email praising the MSURA newsletter. She thinks the board is doing a great job in communications. Thank you, Cheryl and Rick.

February 14, 10 am, there is a Zoom meeting scheduled with the larger B1G Retirees Association. This group schedules a mid-winter call and then the meeting in person is in the summer. Angie and I are scheduled to be online. If you wish to be included, please let me know. I can send you the link when it is available. I've attached the agenda for this meeting with this email. It's a good way to hear the concerns and activities of other B1G Retiree Associations.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower)

Treasurer's Report for December 31, 2023 MSURA Financial Statement

December 2023 revenues totaled \$3,366.11, including \$1,075.00 in donations and \$2,250.00 in underwriting fees from Humana. (Note: the only unpaid underwriters is MSU Healthcare for \$2,000).

Expenditures for December totaled \$766.17, including: \$125.76 for postage; \$277.47 for printing; and \$200 in contingency for articles written by 2 individuals. For the month, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$2,599.24.

Note: Most Lugnut ticket revenues for our August outing were recorded last year, so this accounts for the difference between Lugnut revenues and expenses recorded this year. The Lugnut outing costs are fully covered by the attendees.

Through December 2023, revenues totaled \$13,066.63, including \$11,750 in underwriting income, out of the \$14,000 budgeted for the year. Expenditures totaled \$19,271.39. Year-to-date expenditures exceeded revenues by \$4,204.74. We will likely be in a deficit position all fiscal year, as the revised budget approved by the board had a deficit of up to \$7,000.

As noted in the footnote, as of December 31, 2023 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$199,044.16, an increase of \$7,650 over the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$10,015.81 (Note: account charged \$5,000 for the fall semester distribution of the 4 FY23-24 scholarships awarded).

As of December 31, 2023, \$82,829 has been pledged or contributed towards our MSURA Endowment initiative goal of \$60,000, an increase of \$7,150 over the amount reported last month.

Treasurer's Report for January 31, 2024 MSURA Financial Statement

January 2024 revenues totaled \$2,258.78, including \$200.00 in donations and \$2,000.00 in underwriting fees from MSU Health Care. All underwriting fees planned on have been received.

Expenditures for January totaled \$1,889.64, including: \$523.59 for postage; \$386.06 for printing; a \$214.00 deposit to hold the Lugnut's Clubhouse for our August 16, 2024 outing; and \$512.50 in contingency (\$100.00 for an article and \$412.50 for a bus deposit which is expected to be repaid in the future).

Note: Most Lugnut ticket revenues for our August outing were recorded last year, so this accounts for the difference between Lugnut revenues and expenses recorded this year. The Lugnut outing costs are fully covered by the attendees.

Through January 31, 2024, revenues totaled \$17,325.43, including \$13,750 in underwriting income, out of the \$14,000 budgeted for the year. Expenditures totaled \$21,161.03. Year-to-date expenditures exceeded revenues by \$3,835.60. We will be in a deficit position all fiscal year, as the revised budget approved by the board had a deficit of up to \$7,000.

As noted in the footnote, as of January 31, 2024 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$199,794.16, an increase of \$750 over the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$5,029.36 (Note: account charged \$5,000 for the spring semester distribution of the 4 FY23-24 scholarships awarded).

As of January 31, 2024, \$83,529 has been pledged or contributed towards our MSURA Endowment initiative goal of \$60,000, an increase of \$700 over the amount reported last month.

Proposal to create a 75th Anniversary program booklet for the May luncheon (Cheryl Pell)

I would like to propose that we have an 8-page program to pass out at the May 7th Annual Luncheon/75th Anniversary Celebration. This would be a something that people would take home with them. It is also for posterity for future generations of retirees. It also just seems like the right thing to do.

Here is a possibility of what could go on each page.

Cover:

The 75th anniversary logo

Photos from past events/years

Page 2

Letter from the current MSURA president welcoming guests, etc., along with a photo of the current board and list of officers,etc. (We could get a current photo taken at the April board meeting.)

Page 3

List of all presidents since the beginning and list of all Volunteers of the Year

Page 4

Program of the day's events (even though it could change after the booklet gets printed, but it would be close enough)

Page 5

Short bullet-pointed history of the organization

Page 6

Collage of numerous newsletters over the years, including some of the very first ones

Page 7

Possibly some well wishes from our underwriters and perhaps something from the MSU president as well. Maybe HR would like to offer congrats, etc. These would not be paid messages. We would need board members to solicit these greetings.

Page 8 (back page)

Photos from past events/years

Submitted by Cheryl Pell

Events Committee Report (Christina DeFouw)

Upcoming Special Events:

2/9/2024 R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 22 individuals have RSVP'd, of which 9 have also RSVP'd for lunch at Brody

4/10/2024 Ford Museum and Meijer Gardens Bus Trip

6/2/2024 Meadowbrook Hall Tour/Lunch and Ella Fitzgerald Play Bus Trip

July 2024 Brunch at Newman Lofts, there is a tentative date of 07/10/2024, details are being finalized, this is not ready to be announced.

Volunteer of the Year Award Report (William Anderson)

The subcommittee to nominate and select the 2024 MSURA Volunteer or the Year Award is composed of William Anderson, Roger Baldwin, Angela Brown and Christina Defouw. The subcommittee met on January 17 to review wording for an announcement in upcoming MSURA Newsletters and E Notices, as well as an announcement at the February and March members meeting.

The subcommittee also prepared a one page nomination form. A copy of the nomination form is attached. The form will be available at the sign-in table at the February and March members meetings. The deadline for submissions is March 29, 2024.

The subcommittee will meet next on April 1, 2024 to review and hopefully select an award winner. Once named, we will have the plaque prepared in time for the award ceremony at the May Retirees Association Annual Lunch on May 7, 2024.

2024 MSURA Volunteer of the Year Award

Nomination Form

Submission Deadline: March 29, 2024

Background

Each year the Retirees Association awards a Volunteer of the Year. This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to MSURA and/or has volunteered to improve the quality of university life for students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees, and other members of the MSU community.

If you know someone who you think is deserving of this award, please complete this Nomination Form and return it to the Sign-in desk at the February or March members meeting. The nominee must be a member of MSURA, and individuals who have previously received this award are not eligible. Deadline for submissions is March 29. The award will be presented at the annual MSURA Annual Luncheon on May 7, 2024.

Nominee Name: _____

Nominee contact information (email, phone address, etc.)

University Affiliation (Position, Rank, department, unit, College, etc.)

Nominee Retirement Date: _____

Briefly describe the nominee's contributions to MSURA or other volunteer activities to improve the quality of university life for students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees, and other members of the MSU community. (Use the back side of this form if necessary)

Your name and email: _____

Questions? Contact Bill Anderson at Ander113@msu.edu or (517) 290-7750