

MSURA Board Meeting minutes: February 9, 2022, 10 am, Via Zoom

In attendance: Rick Vogt, Roger Baldwin, John Forsyth, Dave Brower, Dan Mackey, Pam Marcis, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Neelam Kher, Mike Gardner, Pam Marcis, Kate Wight

Called to Order: 10:00 am

Minutes for January 2022 meeting were approved as submitted. J. Forsyth moved; M. Gardner seconded.

President's Report (Rick Vogt)

Humana Healthcare Insurance: Sub-committee met with HR and FEA. Further discussion will continue at a future meeting, that will likely be scheduled in March.

StraightLine Financial Planning Session: Rick will confirm a date for the next meeting, which will likely occur virtually in April. Current plans are to continue quarterly meetings. Retiree and current MSU employee attendance count at recent virtual meetings has been between 75 and 80.

Annual Meeting In-Person or Virtual Only, When to make the call?: The e-notice that will be sent out in about two weeks will include a survey that asks for level of interest and comfort in attending an in person event for the Annual Meeting scheduled for May 2, 2022. Replies must be received within a week of the newsletter transmittal date. The newsletter will include the cost to attend and the fact that attendees will be required to meet any Michigan State University COVID requirements that are in effect (such as COVID vaccinations or proof of negative COVID test). Anders Johanson will include this information on the MSURA Facebook page. We will revisit this at our March board meeting, and again at our April board meeting.

Pending our decision at the March meeting, the **registration form for the annual meeting must be sent out immediately following our March board meeting** with payment requested by the end of March. Final decision will be made at our board meeting on April 6th. If we cancel, we must notify The University Club by April 11, 2022, to avoid losing our \$250 deposit.

Vice President's Report (Neelam Kher)

2021-2022 Programs: Our presenter for February meeting, Dr. Frank Telewski, is prepared for a virtual meeting. Our presenter for March meeting, Raj M. Wiener, J.D., is prepared for a virtual meeting.

Mike Gardner has been talking with Chef Kurt about possible topics for our April 11 meeting. Possibilities: ideas for making leftovers from rotisserie chickens; cooking for two; making meals ahead (again thinking about options for leftovers). They welcome additional ideas. John Forsyth and Bruce Smith will work out the format and logistics for broadcasting the presentation.

Mike Gardner will touch base with Alan Haller's office to ensure that he is set for the annual meeting.

Past President's Report (Roger Baldwin)

MSURA Scholarship Fundraising Committee: Nearly \$54,000 has been raised for the scholarship fund since the beginning of the campaign on April 1, 2021. Winner of the Big 10 quilt will be chosen by a drawing to take place after March 31, 2022.

Quotes for MSURA Communications from donors for articles: **Brief, simple quotes from scholarship donors are needed by no later than February 28th** for article that is being written by Marco Schimizzi for June / July issue. (What is their main motivation for contributing?) The April / May issue will provide an overview on endowed scholarships: What is an endowed scholarship? How much is needed for an endowed scholarship?

Volunteer Fair, April 1 tentatively: Roger will follow-up with Lori Strom to find out about current thinking for conducting as in-person vs virtual, and any involvement with Age Alive.

Aside: The Informal Fundraising Committee has resolved the issue of Newman Loft's offer to underwrite a portion of our expenses in exchange for advertising space in our newsletter. They will not advertise in our newsletter and will not be one of our underwriters. They will provide funds (\$200) to help defray the expense of a MSURA event at the lofts, provide a tour to anyone interested, and donate money to our scholarship fund if anyone signs for a unit as a result of the tour.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower)

Review / Approve January Financial: January 2022 revenues totaled \$5.27, including \$3 in donations. All budgeted underwriting income has been paid. Expenditures totaled \$801.31, including \$478.27 in postage charges and \$306.54 for printing. January expenditures exceeded revenues by \$796.04.

Through January 31, 2022, revenues totaled \$13,718.78 and expenditures totaled \$9,624.69, resulting in an excess of revenues over expenditures to date of \$4,094.09. At this point we are within the parameters of the revised FY2021-22 budget.

As noted in the footnote, as of January 31, 2022, the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$149,634.16, an increase of \$1,900 over the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$6,160.49. It appears only one spring scholarship has been charged to the account. Dave will check to see when the other 2 scholarships will be charged.

As of January 31, 2022, we have raised \$53,954 towards our endowment initiative goal of \$60,000, an increase of \$1,500 since last month's report.

The January 2022 financial statement was approved. K. Wight moved; A. Johanson seconded.

Related Issues:

- Pending: Dave will contact StraightLine about underwriting a portion of the cost for annual meeting (perhaps up to \$2000) after a decision is reached about meeting format, and after we have a better idea about how many people will attend.
- Pending: Date for Lugnuts game, probably in August. Dave will have more info at March meeting

Newman Lofts, Proposal to MSURA: See notes under Past President's Report, Aside; and under Bus Tours, Planning

MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey)

Dan confirmed plans to meet again in March with the Human Healthcare Insurance subcommittee and FEA. Rick Vogt added that his intent is to limit focus to a couple of questions moving forward.

Welcome New Retirees Letters (Angie Brown)

Nothing to report

Scholarship Publicity Article for MSE Employee Groups (Angie Brown)

Angie is working on article, due out in March, with objective of increasing the number and diversity of candidates for the MSURA Scholarship. A future effort to enlarge the pool of candidates will include notifying,

via the admissions office, all MSU employees with students at MSU about the scholarship. Current scholarship recipients may reapply.

Annual Meeting, May 2, 2022, at MSU University Club (Liz Thomas and Pam Marcis)

Among scholarship winners, their parents, our main speaker, and volunteer award recipient, MSURA will cover the cost of lunches for between 15 and 20 people. With an estimated cost at \$40 per person we will subsidize part of that and charge each meeting attendee \$28. Two meal options will be offered, one being vegetarian.

Bus Tours, Planning (Pam Marcis)

Pam provided update on possibilities for summer activities: Patriarche Park (June); Newman Lofts (July 18); Lugnuts (August). She will pursue getting a date for the event at Patriarche Park in June. Pam recommends that we use the \$200 that Newman Lofts has offered to cover beverages, such as bottled water and soft drinks.

Retiree Meals on Campus (Mike Gardner)

On hold

Communications / Underwriters (Rick Vogt, Cheryl Pell)

Spartan Spotlight Article, People Needed: Who should be spotlighted? Article would be short, 500 – 800 words and would address how individual is spending retirement. Individual would have the opportunity to review article and make changes prior to publication. Send candidates and contact information to Rick.

Email for Communications Team Use: Rick will work with John Forsyth to set up.

Office Management (Liz Thomas)

Liz will update the office database on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

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

John will contact MSU Surplus to inquire about pickup / transfer of old computer equipment. Anders asked for photos that he will post on the MSURA Facebook page.

Membership – Special Interest Groups (Pam Marcis)

No report.

Other Items:

Jacqie Babcock has received no nominees for Volunteer Award. She proposes resubmission of last year's nominees. The committee will meet in April after her return.

Additionally, she is working on / planning two articles: History of Summer Circle Theatre; Ten Year Anniversary of The Broad.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am; next meeting, March 9, 2022, 10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight, Secretary, MSURA

February 13, 2022