

MSURA Board Meeting minutes: December 8, 2021, 10 am, Via Zoom

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

Called to Order: 10:03 am

Minutes for November 3, 2021 meeting were approved. John Forsyth moved; Pam Marcis seconded.

President's Report (Rick Vogt)

Humana Healthcare Insurance: FEA survey results are being reviewed. A sub-committee (John Forsyth, Neelam Kher, Dave Brower, Angie Brown) will meet with HR and FEA in January to discuss how to address the issues raised.

StraightLine Financial Planning Session, December 15, 2021: This meeting will be virtual. A decision will be made about whether presentations will continue quarterly or go to one time per year.

Letter head and envelopes: The new letter head and envelopes have been received and are in the HR office.

Other: Rick raised a question about whether we should plan more activities during the warmer months of spring and summer when outside events are more practical. A more proactive approach is essential to prevent losing the base of retirees who are accustomed to attending the monthly membership meetings. We may need to cover expenses for activities in order to attract retirees. The most successful events during 2021 were the Lugnuts game and the lunch at Newman Lofts (where lunch was provided). Dave Brower will investigate possibility of another Lugnuts game event (June, July, August or perhaps more than one game during these months). A sub-committee (Dave Brower, Rick Vogt, Mike Gardner) will pursue this and other alternatives. Patriarch Park and Granger Meadows were named as possible venues.

Rick and Cheryl are looking for beneficial ways to fill empty spaces in the MSURA newsletter. MSU Alumni Association Director, Alumni Programs Operations, Elizabeth Wheeler, may help by providing information about various alumni events around the country. HR can help by posting open positions on campus (particularly Residential and Hospitality Services). Roger Baldwin will contact Pamela Jones, Director of Alumni Engagement, and explore with her ways to partner with retirees.

Vice President's Report (Neelam Kher)

2021 – 2022 Programs: December membership meeting has been canceled. Neelam has contacted Larry Walker, who will present at our January membership meeting. He has assured her that he is able to handle any format that will be required for that meeting: in-person; virtual; or combination.

The community room at the MSUFCU branch on Farm Lane is reserved for all scheduled membership meetings, January through April, if we meet in person.

Final decision about the format for our January membership meeting (virtual, in-person, combination) will be made during our board meeting on January 5, 2022. This policy will continue for future monthly membership meetings for the duration of pandemic-related uncertainty.

Past President's Report (Roger Baldwin)

MSURA Scholarship Fundraising Committee: Door prize drawing for Big Ten quilt will occur after March 31, 2022. Notice about the drawing will be included in the December e-notice. ANYONE who has contributed a

minimum of \$25 since April 1, 2021 or whose contribution IS RECEIVED BY MARCH 31, 2022 will have a chance at 'winning' the Big Ten quilt. Details about when the drawing will occur are yet to be determined.

Related Issues:

- Janet Munn will spearhead the making of a Spartan quilt for the 2022 – 2023 contribution year.
- A discussion ensued about the possibility of using a crowd-power fundraising approach around the time of the upcoming Green Day event (March 15, 2022); we will not use this approach at this time.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower)

Review / Approve October / November Financial:

Dave presented the October and November 2021 MSURA Financial Statements. October revenues totaled \$705.23; expenses totaled \$914.58, leaving total funds available equal to \$44,999.49. November 2021 revenues totaled \$1,600.16, including \$1,400 in underwriting income from MSU Health Care and \$198 in donations. All budgeted underwriting income has been paid. Expenditures totaled \$2,625.34, including \$826.12 in postage charges, \$912.72 for printing and \$870 for payment of the annual D&O liability insurance. November expenditures exceeded revenues by \$1,025.18, with total funds available equal to \$43,974.31.

As of November 30, 2021, revenues totaled \$12,516.26 and expenditures totaled \$8,391.32, resulting in an excess of revenues over expenditures to date of \$4,124.94. At this point we are within the parameters of the revised FY2021-22 budget.

As noted in the footnote, as of November 30, 2021 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$143,839.16, an increase of \$125 over the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$8,660.49 which is net of 2 of the 3 fall MSURA scholarships.

As of November 30, 2021, we have raised \$52,209 towards our endowment Initiative goal of \$60,000, an increase of \$125 from the prior month.

The October & November financial statements were approved. Mike Gardner moved; John Forsyth seconded.

Related Issues:

- The biggest issue is that we have not secured an underwriter for the Annual Meeting. Dave Brower will pursue this with StraightLine.
- Subscriptions will be removed as a line entry in next year's budget. Any future amount related to this will be entered into Miscellaneous Expenses.

MSU Human Resources (Dan Mackey)

- The HR staff continues to help retirees with their health care issues. HR, via a team including their solutions center and a specialist, has been instrumental in helping retirees, especially those with unique circumstances, work with Humana for positive results related to health care and billing issues.
- The HR offices will be closed on campus between December 24, 2021 and January 3, 2022. Their last day in the office will be 12-23-2021. They will return on 1-4-2022.

Welcome New Retirees Letters (Angie Brown)

No update

Scholarship Publicity Article for MSE Employee Groups (Angie Brown)

In order to increase the number of candidates for the MSURA Scholarship we will publish an article (Fall 2022) that will encourage students to apply for our scholarship via employee groups, in addition to the current offering via retirees only. We will see results a year from now.

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

News about the meeting will be published in the February / March newsletter(s). We require Alan Haller's bio and must resolve topic for presentation. Any particular questions or suggestions for discussion should be sent to Mike Gardner, by early January (deadline is 1-7-2022). See below under **Communications / Underwriters** for more information about publication of article advertising the annual meeting.

Bus Tours, Planning (Pam Marcis)

On hold

Retiree Meals on Campus (Mike Gardner)

On hold

Communications / Underwriters (Rick Vogt, Cheryl Pell)

Cheryl will write article re: annual meeting. Liz Thomas, Pam Marcis, and Mike Gardner will review. Cheryl will include a form for registering for the annual meeting in the February / March newsletter.

Office Management (Liz Thomas)

No change. Should we recruit new volunteers to help with office work?

Call Rick if access to office space in Harrison Building is needed.

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

No change

Membership – Special Interest Groups (Pam Marcis)

Board Game SIG has been dropped from our offerings due to lack of interest.

Other Items

The possibility of MSURA partnering with MSU so that retirees have access to initiating Zoom meetings will not be considered at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am; next meeting, January 5, 10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Wight, Secretary, MSURA

December 9, 2021, corrected January 5, 2022