

MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 9, 2020 – VIA ZOOM

Attending: William Anderson, Jacqueline Babcock, Roger Baldwin, Dave Brower, Angela Brown, John Forsyth, Mike Gardner, Dan Mackey, Pam Marcis, Patrick Scheetz, Bruce Smith, Elizabeth Thomas, Rick Vogt

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Baldwin at 10:01 am.

Minutes (Jacqie Babcock): Mike Gardner moved to accept the November 4, 2020 MSURA board minutes. Rick Vogt seconded. Passed unanimously.

President's Report (Roger Baldwin): The fundraising committee has continued to meet. We will use the terminology fundraising "effort" rather than "campaign" which is for larger efforts through the MSU Development Office. While still tentative, the current proposal is to raise \$60,000 over three years for technology and the scholarship endowment. We are in process of identifying some leadership givers which might include Straightline (and perhaps some of their business contacts), MSUFCU, and some individuals. It is hoped that the board will have 100% participation, as well, to launch the initiative. There will be a publicity strategy for both start-up and maintaining the momentum throughout the three years. An individual with a background in advancement has been identified who can help with writing PR pieces for a small fee of \$250. A final plan will be submitted to the board for approval at the January 2021 meeting.

MSURA has expanded programming and will provide two programs in December in addition to our monthly meeting. Employee Assistance and Health for U will discuss programs available. There will be a presentation by Claudia Finklestein on mindful wellness.

MSURA members are being offered access to the Alumni Office program offerings. Some of these have a small fee; others are free of charge.

Vice President's Report (Rick Vogt): The December monthly meeting is on bees and pollinating food crops.

Rick asked for a committee to look at who MSURA will support in our e-notices and underwriting in our newsletters. In the past we have required groups to be MSU related with no fees involved in programming. The Alumni Association might become an underwriter for 2021-2022. For now, their programming will appear in our e-notices. We need some guidelines that the board has endorsed. Jacqie will chair a committee to meet via Zoom in January. Dave Brower, Roger Baldwin, Angela Brown and Rick Vogt have agreed to serve. Others interested should notify Jacqie and/or Rick.

Straightline is looking at presenting four, one-hour programs on pertinent topics to MSU Retirees and their investments via social media over the next year starting in February.

Rick asked for volunteers willing to learn to serve as back up for moderation of the monthly meetings. Roger Baldwin has already been recruited. Our Zoom presentations this year have received favorable remarks.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower): November 2020 revenues totaled \$578.86, including \$575.00 in donations. Expenditures totaled \$939.60, including \$825.00 for our annual liability insurance. Expenditures exceeded revenues in November by (\$360.74).

Through November 30, 2020 revenues totaled \$9,511.82 and expenditures totaled \$7,723.10. Net revenues exceed expenditures by \$1,788.72 and the Association's net asset balance at November 30, 2020 was \$40,147.36.

As of November 30, 2020 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$116,602.16, an increase of \$75.00 from the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$3,821.28, net of \$2,500 for the second semester disbursement for our two MSURA scholarships. An encumbrance on the account of \$1,281.33 is being reviewed. Dave thinks this should be removed. This matter will be reported on next month.

Dave also reported that Darlene Wenner, who coordinates MSU Shares for retirees, reported 120 gifts have come in and there were 140 just delivered. This is on target with previous years' pledges.

John Forsyth noted we have spent \$400 for printing of newsletters and \$100 on postage and estimates we will spend \$1,000 for the year on newsletters. Is this a problem? Dave and Rick are evaluating what will happen with the new MSU process for printing and postage and will make changes if necessary. Regardless, we are sending fewer hard copies of the newsletter this year and we expect to be under budget.

Scholarships (Angela Brown): Applications are being accepted. She will communicate with Admissions Office in February 2021.

HR/Benefits (Dan Mackey): Retirees will be receiving communications from Humana about prescription coverage. MSU sent out confirmations about individual coverage after open enrollment. In January retirees can print a paper enrollment card from the Humana website if their card has not arrived in the mail. Mike Gardner reported he was told by Humana that individuals should try to order what they can for prescriptions by end of December under the old program to avoid any start up problems first of the year. Dan reported MSU has asked Caremark to work closely with Humana for the change-over. Some prescriptions can be rolled over and some cannot, such as narcotics. MSU Pharmacy will also assist their customers.

Annual Luncheon (Pam Marcis): The University Club will continue to hold our May reservation with no fee unless they have another group asking for the date. At that time we can confirm or release the date. The board felt that May will likely be too soon for an in-person gathering. In January we will reassess whether to go in-person with May, postpone to late summer or fall or hold a spring meeting via Zoom.

Technology (John Forsyth): The new computer hasn't arrived yet but it is expected over semester break. Files will need to be transferred.

Office Management (Liz Thomas): Liz does not expect to sign up volunteers to staff the MSURA Office until September. She did spend time in the office yesterday cleaning up the data base. There were several change of addresses, some deceased members to record and a few new members to add.

Special Interest Groups (Pam Marcis): The quilters are making a green and white quilt to be auctioned off as part of our fundraising effort.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Submitted by Jacqueline Babcock

Secretary