

MSURA BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2020, 9:00 AM
ROOM 125 NISBET BUILDING

Attending: William Anderson, Jacqueline Babcock, Roger Baldwin, Dave Brower, Angela Brown, John Forsyth, Michael Gardner, Dan Mackey, Liz Thomas, Pam Marcis, Bruce Smith, Ron Smith

Guests: Pamela Jones, MSU Advancement/Alumni Office; Renee Rivard HR

The special meeting was called to order by President Roger Baldwin at 9:05 AM.

Pamela Jones, Director, Major Market Engagement, University Advancement described the goals of her office and various options for MSURA to partner with activities, groups and regional alumni groups across Michigan and on campus. One easy way is for us to include links and information from their office and for many activities they can help us with communication, registration and tool kits for events. One upcoming activity is MSU's Global Day of Service on April 18, 2020 where groups across the US (and internationally) participate in projects to help others. She also suggested trip ideas such as a Discovery Cruise on the Great Lakes and Tollgate, an MSU garden project in Detroit. These kinds of activities can bring in new participants. Pamela's email address is pamelaj@msu.edu. Additional information on their overall mission is attached below via PDF.

The board meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

Minutes (Jacqueline Babcock): It was moved and seconded the minutes be approved. Passed unanimously.

President's Report (Roger Baldwin): Roger asked for any additions or changes in the special agenda items to be discussed over the next two months. There were none. The list is included at the end of the minutes below.

Vice President's Report (Roger Baldwin in the absence of Rick Vogt): Recording Monthly Meetings – Bruce Smith is continuing to work on this. Not every program will be uploaded. Rick has found varying degrees of success in sign offs for recording. Next Monday's monthly meeting will feature the MSU Band Director.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower): December 2019 revenues totaled \$152.01, including \$100 in donations. Expenditures totaled \$351.47, including \$250 for December monthly meeting entainment. December 2019 net expenditures exceeded revenues by (\$199.46).

December 2019 year-to-date (YTD) revenues totaled \$13,126.27, including \$10,400 in underwriting revenue, while YTD expenditures totaled \$10,391.74. YTD net revenues exceeded expenditures by \$2,734.53. Since all expected underwriting revenue has been received, this surplus will be used during the year for operational expenses.

As of December 31, 2019 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$113,327.16, including a \$700 increase from the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$4,924.44, net of both scholarships awarded for FY19-20.

The MSURA endowment is in good shape. We should be able to fund two full scholarships each year.

MSURA was able to supplement the fall registration fees for the scholarship recipient who graduated early. She will receive the full \$2500 for her senior year tuition for the fall semester. The amount deducted from the MSURA account was slightly less than the full \$2500. Dave is checking on this.

Dave suggested we should handle future requests like this on an individual basis. Angela Brown concurred. She said she had tried to write up a policy and it is not possible to think up every possibility and any recommended policy could become too restrictive, as a result. It was the consensus that any special requests that come forward will be referred to the Scholarship Committee for recommendation.

Medicare Advantage Program (Renee Rivard): Renee Rivard spoke to the board about Medicare Advantage. This program will likely be initiated for eligible MSU retirees effective January 2021. Currently Medicare includes Part A which is hospitalization; Part B which is supplementary and is deducted out of Social Security; and Part D which is prescriptions. Part C is offered by several insurance companies. They have an incentive to lower costs and offer programs to keep their clientele healthy. The State of MI has implemented this program and is using BCBS. There are other insurance companies who offer these programs, as well, and MSU has narrowed their search to two companies. Spouses will continue to be covered. There would be no Part D as prescriptions are part of the package. MSU's initial contract would be for three years with the chosen company. Enrollees will be issued a new insurance card and will show one card for services and prescriptions. The card is good everywhere across the US where Medicare is accepted. In many cases there is more coverage. Currently MSU is self-insured. Moving to Medicare Advantage means MSU would pay a monthly fee to the Medicare Advantage company chosen and the company then assumes profit or loss. HR will work closely with MSURA to provide information to retirees and will contact the organization to work out a timeline and plan for rollout. MSU will make the transfer for all retirees enrolled so there will be no extra enrollment paperwork for the individual retiree.

Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower): It was moved and seconded the Treasurer's Report be approved. Passed unanimously.

Lugnuts: The Club House is available on Aug 21. Attendees can sign up and pay direct through the Lugnuts organization with a credit card. There are 54 slots available right now. The consensus was Dave will put 50 tickets on hold which will necessitate an approximate \$185 outlay for MSURA. The board also agreed to a second event on June 8 at 7:00 PM which is Dollar Day. Hot dogs and other items are \$1.00. These will be regular seats at a lower cost.

Bus Trip (Pam Marcis): The trip to Grand Rapids is April 20 and will cost \$55. The group will visit the Ford Museum in the morning and will proceed to Meijer Gardens where lunch will be on our own. Museum admission, admission to the gardens and tram ride will be included in the price. Grand Rapids retirees can join and will pay on their own.

Other (Angela Brown): Angela noted she had a billing problem with her VSP vision plan. Members have been issued new numbers. If anyone else has a problem they should call VSP customer service directly to fix the problem.

Action Items:

Jacqie will ask for someone to record minutes for February and March as she will be out of town.

We are short about \$1500 for the annual luncheon in May and need to confirm if Straightline will be subsidizing the luncheon this year.

Liz reported there was a phone message from Kenneth Howell on behalf of the 2020 Census Office. He is recruiting people for paid positions which need to be filled by March 1. Liz will contact Rick for inclusion in the newsletter or e-notices.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Submitted by Jacqueline Babcock

Secretary



MSU_Alumni_Office
_Strategic_Plan_Fall:

Proposed MSURA topics for in-depth discussion:

January 2020:

- **Potential cooperation with MSU Advancement/Alumni Office** (e.g., Alumni University, travel programs, regional meetings, publicizing each other's events, participation in Global Day of Service)
- **Ideas for MSURA service to university and community**

February 2020:

- **Documenting contributions of retirees to university and community** (e.g., service work, financial contributions)
- **Strategies to increase and diversify MSURA member participation** (e.g., welcoming new retirees more formally, reaching out proactively to different bargaining units)
- **Building a case for part-time staff support for MSURA**

March 2020:

- **New programming ideas** (e.g., health day, programs on different cultures, technology support)
- **Fund-raising initiatives** (to increase scholarship endowment, subsidize our operations, etc.)
- **MSURA succession planning and leadership recruitment**
- **Facilitating the retirement transition** (e.g., program on "What I Wish I Knew Before I retired," possible cooperation with HR to supplement "Roadmap to Retirement" seminars.)