

**MSURA BOARD MEETING**  
**JANUARY 6, 2021 VIA ZOOM**

**Attending:** William Anderson, Jacqueline Babcock, Roger Baldwin, Dave Brower, Angela Brown, John Forsyth, Mike Gardner, Daniel Mackey, Pamela Marcis, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Rick Vogt

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Baldwin at 10:02 am.

**Minutes (Jacqie Babcock):** Angela Brown moved and John Forsyth seconded that the December 9, 2020 minutes be approved. Passed unanimously.

**President's Report (Roger Baldwin):** The fundraising group continues to meet. A vote will take place at the February meeting as there are still some loose ends. The current plan is to raise \$60,000 over three years. This is based on \$57,000 needed to fund a third scholarship (or add to current scholarships) and provide funds for technology needs. The fundraising effort will go live on April 1, 2021. Straightline has committed to \$15,000 over three years. Angie and Roger met with April Clobes at MSUFCU and asked for a \$15,000 commitment. The MSUFCU board will meet in January to decide projects they will support for the coming year. The meeting was positive. Individual board members are also asked to make a financial commitment in any amount so the public announcement will show broad support for the fundraising effort.

The treasurer, Dave Brower, has set a maximum of \$600 per year that can be paid to someone to assist with the publicity plan. Still under discussion is the need for a brochure and/or a logo or branding for the project.

There was a question about when purchase of equipment might take place. It could start as early as next fall, but the discussion was tabled for the future.

Roger also mentioned there is an "exchange of ideas" taking place via Zoom from the University of Wisconsin and Portland State University being hosted by the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) on what other retiree organizations are doing to support their members during the pandemic. Roger suggested board members could sign up to view the presentation on January 27. John Forsyth forwarded information via email to board members.

**Vice President Report (Rick Vogt):** Rick announced the January membership meeting next Monday will be a presentation on vaccines and, maybe, information on how to obtain the shots.

Rick also announced he would be scheduling a meeting of those interested to look at our communications via newsletters and e-notices. Part of the discussion will also include underwriting guidelines.

**Treasurer's Report (Dave Brower):** Dave received the December ledgers just before today's meeting. He will send a full report after he has had time to review the information. In general, the only expenditures for the past month were for postage and printing of the newsletter. There were also donations to the scholarship fund and MSURA fund.

**Scholarships:** No report

**Volunteer of the Year Award:** No report

**HR/Benefits (Dan Mackey):** Overall, the transition to the Medicare Advantage Humana program has gone as expected. Retirees should have received their membership cards in the mail. There have been a few misunderstandings with individuals signing up for individual plans and some issues with those with spouses who worked with the State of Michigan or the Teachers Retirement Program with the State. MSU is working with the employees affected and also with the State to work out solutions. Dan urged retirees with specific questions to call Humana direct with questions.

Bus Tours: No report

**Annual Meeting (Pam Marcis):** The May 2021 date will be cancelled at the University Club. The board does not feel it is feasible to have an in-person meeting that soon as vaccinations are just now rolling out. MSURA was offered two September dates by the University Club. Pam will save one of these dates with them, but the board is not ready to commit to this option, either. May 2, 2022 will be reserved for the following year's annual luncheon. Elections for the board will be held electronically again in May 2021. The board will look at a virtual annual meeting in May 2021 with the possibility of the MSU President or his designate (new Provost?) as a guest speaker. Roger will contact the President's office. The Volunteer of the Year award can also be awarded in May via the virtual meeting.

Communications/Underwriters: No report

**Technology (John Forsyth):** John asked each board member to view the website and make notes so we can have a list of suggestions for what can be improved. This is especially important as we go into our fundraising effort as we will be asking members to access the website for information.

**Office Management (Liz Thomas):** Liz asked if she should reserve the community room at the MSUFCU for monthly meetings starting in September. In general, board members felt in person meetings are unlikely until January 2022, but suggested contacting the MSUFCU for their perspective so they know we are still interested for future dates, would be a good idea. Liz will make the contact.

Special Interest Groups: No Report

United Way: Contributions can still be made.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Submitted by Jacqueline Babcock, Secretary