

MSURA BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2020 – VIA ZOOM

Present: Bill Anderson, Jacqueline Babcock, Roger Baldwin, Dave Brower, Angela Brown, John Forsyth, Mike Gardner, Dan Mackey, Pamela Marcis, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Rick Vogt

President Roger Baldwin called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Minutes (J. Babcock): Bruce Smith pointed out a grammatical change. It was moved by A. Brown and seconded by M. Gardner the September 2020 minutes be approved with this change. Approved unanimously.

President's Report (R. Baldwin): The MSU President has the annual MSURA luncheon his calendar. We will continue to monitor whether the luncheon can take place in person or perhaps virtual.

A group of people have viewed an online demonstration of the virtual presentation from Humana on the new health insurance plan. It is quite well done and we anticipate the slides will be available to view online for individuals not able to sign up for one of the formal virtual presentations. D. Mackey said due to federal guidelines, the information has to be approved by several agencies in advance of the slides being available so this may take a bit of time. There was some disappointment in not being able to compare how current benefits vary with the new benefits. D. Mackey reported there will be a virtual benefits fair where there will be some opportunity to ask questions. His presentation at the annual meeting next week will be more general and specific questions about individual needs should be addressed to Humana. There is also information on the MSU-HR site. MSU is communicating with individuals who need to present their Medicare card. This is because new Medicare cards were issued that don't use social security numbers and Humana will need the new cards which include a new ID number.

Roger also discussed the need to look at some low key fundraising due to less underwriting income. The organization also has some technology needs due to virtual meetings, updated software and a computer in the MSURA office. Roger will work with a small group to come up with a proposal for technology needs before the holidays and a plan for possible fundraising after the first of the year.

Roger announced there will be a special zoom meeting on November 12 at 3:30 pm. Jacqie has arranged for the new director of the Broad Art Museum to present with a Q/A at the end of her presentation. Rick has the information on her talk for the newsletter.

Mike Gardner and Bill Anderson are also working with individuals for possible presentations on various aspects of health and wellness during the pandemic. Roger will work with them on possible dates. These efforts are part of our initiative to offer additional online opportunities for our members since we cannot meet in person for social gatherings or trips, etc.

Vice-President's Report (R. Vogt): Rick is working with Dan to coordinate the meeting next Monday. The deadline for the newsletter is this Friday.

Treasurer's Report (D. Brower): September 2020 revenues totaled \$4,926.58, including \$4,800 in underwriting revenues. All budgeted underwriting income has been received. Expenditures totaled

\$3,659.10, including \$1,334.83 postage and \$2,095.77 in printing costs. Revenues exceeded expenditures in September by \$1,267.48.

Through September 30, 2020 revenues totaled \$8,925.98 and expenditures totaled \$6,248.39. Net revenues exceed expenditures by \$2,677.59 and the Association's net asset balance at September 30, 2020 was \$41,036.23.

As of September 30, 2020 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$116,402.16, an increase of \$100 from the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$6,333.25.

Dave was asked what would be needed in the endowment account to fully fund three scholarships. The estimate, based on current figures, is \$170,000. The board had thought about proposing a challenge grant with Straightline to further fund this initiative, but it seems like a big jump for now. Rick estimates the newsletter hard copies to be sent out will be reduced from approximately 900 to about 300, so we will realize some savings here.

Bruce Smith moved and John Forsyth seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted. Passed unanimously.

Scholarship Report (A. Brown): Everyone agreed the article on the scholarship recipients that appeared in the latest newsletter was very nice.

Volunteer Award Guidelines (J. Babcock): The draft was sent out ahead of the meeting. It was suggested an "s" be added to award(s) since we have awarded more than one award in a year. Angie moved and Rick seconded that the guidelines be approved with the above change. Passed unanimously.

The statement appears at the end of the minutes for the permanent record.

Discussion took place about where policies and other important permanent documents should be stored. For now, we should definitely keep hard copies in the file and on a central computer. Dave agreed we need to have an archival plan. He said he had started to work on a procedures manual and requested each officer should try to put together a position description. This is an ongoing discussion.

Trips (P. Marcis): Pam is looking into the possibility of some online museum tours.

MSU Shares/United Way: There will be no in-person envelope stuffing this year. The company printing the information will be processing the mailing.

Zoom for Special Interest Group Chairs: Rick will put in the request for approval on Monday. Three groups have asked for the approval: Book Club, Genealogy and Military History.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

MSURA Volunteer of the Year Award(s) Overview

Mission Statement MSURA

Michigan State University Retirees Association (MSURA) is an organization for all retired faculty, staff and their spouses. The mission of the MSURA is to establish and maintain a community of fellowship

among its members; to stimulate individual and mutual interests and concerns; to bring its members together for social, recreational and educational purposes; to communicate and clarify information that has special impact upon retired persons and surviving spouses; to provide liaison between Michigan State University retirees and Michigan State University administration; and to participate in service projects and programs that benefit its members, Michigan State University and the community.

Award Criteria:

The Michigan State University Retirees Association Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an individual or individuals who have made significant contributions to the goals and activities supported by MSURA as stated above. This award acknowledges exceptional volunteer service to MSURA by an MSU retiree.

The nomination letter should include specific instances of outstanding voluntary contributions to MSURA. Other work toward enhancing the overall quality of university life for students, faculty, staff, alumni, retirees, or other members of the MSU community and contributions to a positive collegial spirit will also be taken into consideration.

The nominee will be a member of MSURA. Individuals who have received this award are not eligible. A list of previous winners appears on the MSURA webpage.

Process:

Nominations will be solicited in the spring of each year. Members of the MSURA board and anyone from the MSURA membership at large may submit a nomination. Announcements will be made via the newsletter and e-notices asking for nominations to be sent to the Chair. A description of why an individual is being nominated should be included with the nomination letter to be used for introductory purposes when the award is announced.

A Chair will be appointed by the President of MSURA and a committee will be formed of 3-4 individuals. The MSURA President and previous year's recipient(s) will be asked to join the committee. The winner's name will be kept confidential until the announcement at the MSURA Annual Luncheon. The Award will include a plaque. The design for the plaque is on file at C & S Trophy, 4408 S. Cedar Street in Lansing, MI.

If no appropriate nominations are submitted, the award does not have to be presented in a given year. However, more than one recipient may be appropriate in some years.

