

MSU RETIREES ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

MARCH 3, 2021 VIA ZOOM

Attending: William Anderson, Jacqueline Babcock, Roger Baldwin, Angela Brown John Forsyth, Mike Gardner, Dan Mackey, Pamela Marcis, Cheryl Pell, Patrick Scheetz, Bruce Smith, Liz Thomas, Rick Vogt

Guests: Cherie Booms (MSU HR Assistant Director of Benefits), Rain Buck (Humana Senior Account Manager), Renee Rivard (MSU HR Director of Compensation and Benefits), Kristina (Tina) Seppala (MSU HR Professional and Project Lead of the retiree health plan transition)

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

Minutes (J. Babcock): Rick Vogt moved and John Forsyth seconded the minutes from the February 2021 MSURA Board meeting be approved. Passed unanimously.

HR and Humana Presentation: Human Relations Director of Compensation and Benefits, Renee Rivard, reiterated the process to resolve issues that retirees may have with Humana. Individuals should call the number on the back of their Humana card first, contact the MSU HR Solutions Center second and if they are still not satisfied they can work with a Concierge at Humana contacted through the HR Solutions Center. In general, issues have been satisfactorily resolved. HR does want to know about issues because some of them are pertinent to all retirees and in the case of international travel, the amount that can be billed has been increased due to concerns expressed. Rain Buck, Humana Senior Account Manager, indicated there will be some additional virtual meetings in May with MSURA members. Calls that come into the MSURA office and emails should be referred to the MSU Solutions Center. MSU is keeping track of issues raised. MSURA will continue to refer members to the three-step process to resolve problems. We will also refer members to the videos which were recorded previously with information. Humana does audit telephone calls and if incorrect or incomplete information is given out, employees are re-trained with correct information.

President's Report (R. Baldwin): The fundraising effort is gaining steam. Cheryl Pell has developed a logo and thermometer gauge to measure progress and has written a draft kick-off article. Rick Vogt has a schedule for articles to be published. Chuck Webb and his wife have agreed to be Honorary Chairs for the fund raising effort. \$41,600 has been raised so far toward the \$60,000 goal.

We need to put together a nominating committee. The suggestion is for a program committee to be developed to assist the Vice President with programming. Included in the role of this committee would be planning of some social events, as well.

Vice President's Report (R. Vogt): The March presentation is on mints and other health providing herbs. StraightLine will present on March 10. A special presentation by the new Chair of the Department of Theatre will take place March 25. Rick is also pursuing additional topics by last month's speaker on bias.

Treasurer's Report (D. Brower): The report was sent to the board prior to the meeting via email. February 2021 revenues totaled \$143.60, including \$112.00 in underwriting income from the College of Music. Expenditures totaled \$196.88, including \$179.82 in postage charges. February expenditures exceeded revenues by (\$53.28).

Through February 28, 2021 revenues totaled \$10,419.40 and expenditures totaled \$7,961.75. Net revenues exceed expenditures by \$2,457.65 and the Association's net asset balance at February 28, 2021 was \$40,816.29.

As of February 28, 2021 the MSURA Endowment had a balance of \$122,755.16, an increase of \$5,126.62.00 from the prior month. The income account had a balance of \$5,126.62, net of \$2,500 for the second semester disbursement for our 2 MSURA scholarships.

No vote was taken.

Scholarships (A. Brown): The application deadline was March 1. The committee to review applications is: Roger Baldwin, Angie Brown, Patrick Scheetz, Bruce Smith, and Rick Vogt.

Volunteer of the Year Award (J. Babcock): Jacqie will write an announcement to be placed in the newsletter and e-bulletin for nominees for this award to be presented at the May 2021 annual meeting virtually.

HR (D. Mackey): Dan reminded the board the Nisbet Building is now called the 1407 S. Harrison Building until a new name is identified. As of now, there is still no communication about when employees may return to campus to work in person.

Bus Tours: No report

Annual Meeting: It will take place virtually with the MSU President as a speaker on Monday, May 3.

Underwriters: Jacqie will start to contact underwriters in June or July for next year.

Technology (J. Forsyth): John and Anders Johanson have made some changes to the web page per the discussion at last month's meeting. We can still look at how to make the videos more accessible per the HR discussion today. There is also a link for direct access to the Development link for the scholarship fundraising.

Office Management (L. Thomas): Since we are not sure when MSU employees will return to campus, there has been no contact with office volunteers. Liz and Dave Brower continue to go into the office to look at mail, phone messages and update data bases. MSUFCU has our name on the list for the Mt. Hope Community Room reservations, but as of this date they are not reserving the space for any large groups.

We would like to recruit people to volunteer with MSURA. Under consideration is the planning of a reception or two each year for new retirees.

United Way: Roger reported the donations this year were very comparable to past years which is very impressive.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

Minutes submitted by Jacqueline Babcock, Secretary