

UMSL Retirees Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Glen Echo Country Club
March 20, 2024

Attendees: Candi Agnew, Sue Baber, Mimi Duncan, Tom Eyssell, David Garin, Dave Ganz, Grace Kennedy, Debbie Kettler, Helene Sherman, Steve Spaner, Cindy Vantine, Mary Bosnick, UMSL Liaison.

A. Welcome and Call to Order: In President Hattman's absence, Tom Eyssell, President-Elect called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

B. Approval of December 15, 2023 minutes: Minutes were approved as submitted.

C. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Steve Spaner noted that this report reflects the first dividend on the CD was received on March 1, 2024. The CD matures 18 months from September 1, 2023 purchase date. The report was accepted with no changes.

D. Committee/Association Reports

Membership: Mini Duncan reported that we are moving ahead with membership renewals. The committee needs approval for printing and mailing expenses. The amount is \$136.00 (instead of \$184.90 from the report.) A motion was made to approve this expense. The motion was approved. Checks will be mailed to the Treasurer and a secure Google doc site has been established that will record renewals (credit card and checks.) This site can only be accessed by Mimi Duncan, Melissa Hattman, Steve Spaner and Tom Eyssell.

Planning and Events: Cindy Vantine discussed the upcoming Spring event, a campus bus tour which is scheduled for April 30 at 10 a.m. The 1-1 ½ hour tour will be narrated by Dave Ganz. Cindy requested Board approval to acquire a shuttle bus for the event. The 25 passenger bus will cost \$210 for a minimum of 3 hours. At the conclusion of the tour, the group will go to lunch at the Ferguson Brewhouse. Each attendee is responsible to pay for their lunch. There was another discussion concerning whether we should charge for the event. A motion was made to approve the expenditure for the shuttle bus. This motion was approved. A motion to approve a nominal charge for the event was not approved.

Spring Luncheon: Debbie Kettler stated that due to the unforeseen circumstances at the Holiday luncheon, the Club did not charge the association for the luncheon. Subsequently, we have funds available. Debbie believes that we would have a much better turnout if we returned to advertising the Spring luncheon by both mail and email. The cost of mailing an invitation would be approximately \$500. A suggested timeline is to mail invitations by May 6th with an RSVP deadline of June 10th. Postcards and emails will be sent simultaneously.

There was considerable discussion on which mailing list to use, i.e., the list we have and maintain (with approximately 400 names) or try to get access to the master list maintained by the System. Eventually the following motions were made.

Motion #1: Request to mail 1st class Postcard invitations to the master list maintained by the system. This motion was withdrawn.

New motion: Mail a postcard invitation to our current list (with approximately 400 individuals) maintained by Steve Spaner. An email invitation will be sent as well. This motion was seconded and approved.

Mimi Duncan suggested that we should consider charging for the Spring luncheon. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Communications: Sue Baber stated that the deadline for content for the newsletter is April 1st. The newsletter will be published first week of May and will include information about the Spring luncheon and membership renewal.

Nominations: Helene Sherman contacted board members to determine their intentions for the next election. She discussed vacancies that will need to be filled. The Committee will prepare a slate to be discussed at the May 22nd meeting.

Retiree of the Year: Helene reported there was no response to the nominating form which was sent to the entire RA membership. She and Mimi have met with the Senate and Staff Association to garner nominations. She also contacted the Chancellor's Office to determine if there are any issues with the award being given at the State of the University program in the fall.

Helene mentioned she would like to discuss the ROTY process and offer suggestions for possible changes at a future meeting.

Alumni Association Update: Mary Bosnick informed that board that there have been changes in the Alumni Association office following the departure of Phil Donato. These changes may result in changes for Mary's role with the Retirees Association. She said she did not anticipate that the affiliate structure to be eliminated but there could be changes. Decisions will be made closer to the end of the fiscal year (June 30th.)

E. Old Business

Handling and Processing of Checks: This issue has been solved.

Future Events Survey: A google form online survey has been created. A link to the survey will be sent as a part of the renewal form and in the membership confirmation email. It will be part of the newsletter as well. Lifetime members will get the form via the newsletter. The results will be shared with Cindy after the June 14th luncheon.

F. New Business

Proposed By-laws: As suggested by Steve, the physical format of bylaws will be similar to the previous bylaws (ex: using numbers instead of bullet points.) The discussion then moved to each individual page.

Page 1:

Page 1, Article I, Meetings

Section B: 2nd sentence: *This will be a social gathering and a business meeting to elect four UMSLRA members to the Nominating Committee[,] and any other business needing approval.*

Motion to add a comma was approved.

No other changes on page 1.

Page 2:

Article V – Roles and Responsibilities of Officers

- Remove the word, **OFFICERS** from the top of the page.
- Section D. Secretary
 1. *Prepare Board packets for distribution at each Board meeting. Addition: Board packet to include agenda, officer reports and committee reports.* This motion was approved.
- Section E. Treasurer
 4. *Prepare and file any and all state and federal reports or tax forms pertaining to the UMSLRA, as needed.* This motion was approved.

No other changes on page 2.

Page 3:

Article VI – Roles and Responsibilities of Committees

Section A. 1.: Motion #1. Strike last sentence of this paragraph. *No member of the Nominating Committee may be placed on the slate in their year of committee service.* After discussion, the motion to strike this sentence was approved by a vote of 8-2.

Section A. 2.: Motion #2: Strike the word new from the first sentence: *The Selection Committee shall consist of the UMSLRA immediate Past President and four [new] members, two appointed by campus associations and two selected by the Committee chair from past ROTY awardees.* The motion to strike **new** was approved.

Section A. 2.: There was a concern with the sentence beginning on line 8: ***In the event that a past awardee cannot serve, a member serving on the UMSLRA Board in their first year of their 2-year term will be appointed by the current UMSLRA president.*** Following a discussion, it was determined that the concern was unfounded, and no change was needed.

No other changes on page 3.

Page 4: There were no changes on page 4.

A motion was made to approve bylaws as amended. The motion was approved. The new bylaws and the constitution will be forwarded to the membership twenty-one days prior to the June 14th meeting. The bylaws and the constitution will be voted on at the business meeting during the Spring luncheon. Dave Ganz commended David, Tom and Melissa for their hard work and dedication to this project.

FY 25 budget proposal draft: Tom Eyssell. A draft budget which will be submitted to the Alumni Association was discussed. In the past UMSLRA received \$2500. Next year's budget probably be \$1,750.

Attendees fee for RA events: This item will be discussed at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Prepared by Candi Agnew, UMSLRA Secretary