Minutes of the UMSL Retirees Association Annual Meeting: June 12, 2008

The meeting was held after the Spring Luncheon on the Grand Terrace of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, hosted by UM-SL Chancellor Thomas F. George and Dr. Barbara Harbach, his wife.

Board Officers and Members Present: David Garin, president; David Ganz, vice-president; Steven Spaner, secretary; L. "Sandy" MacLean, treasurer; Shirley Martin, past president; Norman Seay; Fred Wilke.

UMSL Retirees Association (RA) President David Garin opened the business meeting with a sincere thank you to Chancellor Thomas George for hosting the RA Spring Luncheon. Garin invited Chancellor George to address the members.

Chancellor George began by noting that most of his comments were previously presented in his May 20, 2008 Report to the Community [http://www.umsl.edu/services/media/newsrel/may20crc.htm]. He highlighted the following accomplishments and new events:
- UMSL did get an equity adjustment ($2.5 million from the Missouri Legislature and $350,000 from UM President Forsee). The appropriations bill is awaiting the Governor’s signature.
- ITenterprises has partnered with UMSL and presently has one information technology tenant.
- South Campus will become the site of the new baseball/soccer field. The old Normandy Hospital is being torn down for the new field and the South Campus entrances are being rebuilt and upgraded.
- UMSL is now planning with HOK for the building of the new Science Complex on North Campus.
- The UMSL Central Administration will be holding a retreat to initiate the new strategic plan.
- UMSL is currently preparing for the reaccredidation visits and evaluations to start in the Fall.

Garin reported on the meeting of representatives of the campus retirees associations with newly installed UM President Gary Forsee. David Ganz, who also attended the meeting, reported that the meeting was a good introduction with some inroads on presentation of retirees’ issues. Garin added it was clear that there will be no pension adjustments for retirees in 2008-2009, but remarked that representatives will put more pressure on Forsee when next they meet with him.

Garin next called upon RA Treasurer L. Sandy McLean to give the Treasurer’s Report [report attached].

Garin next introduced RA Nomination Committee chair Shirley Martin to present the slate of nominees for RA Officers and RA Board positions. The slate listed David Garin for reelection as RA President, David Ganz for reelection as RA Vice President, Grace Kennedy for the one-year completion term of RA Treasurer, and L. Sandy McLean, Norman Seay, and Lawrence Freidman for reelection to the RA Board. Garin noted that a forth RA Board position nomination was needed due to the untimely and sad death of Board member and Sociology Professor emeritus Herman Smith. Garin opened the floor for additional RA Officer and Board position nominations. RA member Shirley Martin nominated RA member William Webster [1986 retired Instructor from the School of Business, Management Area] for an RA Board position. Nomination was seconded and approved. Hearing no other nominations, RA member Norman Flax moved nominations be closed. The motion was seconded and approved. RA member Shirley Martin moved to accept the slate of nominees by acclamation. The motion was approved unanimously. Garin noted that one of the four Board positions, the position held by Herm
Smith, was a one-year completion of term position. Garin said he would determine the appointment of the one-year completion of term by a drawing among the four new RA Board elected members.
[updated RA Board Roster attached]

Garin recognized RA Secretary Steven Spaner to report on his inquiries and efforts to retain/secure UM email privileges/accounts for all retirees. Spaner recounted the history and motivation for the proposal and the sequence of inquiries to determine viability of the proposal: survey of policy and privileges on other campuses, letter sent to presidential Chief of Staff, David Russell, for conveyance to President Forsee, and meeting with UMSL Chancellor Thomas George and his staff. The result was that email and IT services are made available to all retirees on the UM-C campus [MURA] for a yearly fee of $24. No universal availability or policy exists on any other campuses, it is only a perk reserved for faculty awarded emeritus status. Spaner indicated that the conclusion from the meeting with Chancellor George and discussion with the RA Board was to survey the UMSL Retirees Association membership regarding interest and support for implementing the MURA policy and option on the UMSL campus. Spaner asked for a show of hands “Who would be interested in having their umsl.edu email account and access to the IT services of the UM System?” The show of interest was substantial. Spaner said he will convey the memberships interest to the Chancellor for implementation. An alternative option of having email addressed to a retiree’s umsl.edu address forwarded to a non UM email account at no cost received minimal interest.

Garin next recognized RA member Bob Proffer who asked for a status report of health care benefits for retirees. Garin reported that there were no new benefits or changes in premiums announced, yet. It was announced that CIGNA has bought out Great West but for the time being the Great West number and card are still useable.

Finally, Garin made the announcement that the book exchange table was at the side of the room and members with a book to exchange were encouraged to do so before leaving.

Motion to adjourn followed. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by:
Steven D. Spaner
UMSL-Retirees Association Secretary
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST.LOUIS  
RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
Treasurer’s Report  
June 12, 2008

**ASSETS**

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**Revenue**

Members renewals, new Life Members, & Holiday Luncheon $2,319.00

**Expenses**

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