Association President David Garin opened the Business Meeting at 12:45 PM. He thanked UMSL Chancellor Thomas George and Professor Barbara Harbach for hosting the annual UMSL-RA luncheon and business meeting. He also thanked Director of University Events Cindy Vantine and her coworkers for arranging the luncheon event.

Garin invited Chancellor George to speak to the group to give a campus update. Chancellor George highlighted the accomplishments by campus faculty, staff, and programs that were highlighted in his recent Chancellor's Report to the Community on May 10 [text at http://www.umsl.edu/chancellor/files/pdfs/crc2013a.pdf]; [video at http://www.umsl.edu/chancellor/files/movies/CRC2013.mov].

First President Garin drew attention to minutes from the last business meeting of the UMSL-RA, December 4, 2012, which had been placed on the tables for members to review. He asked for corrections and additions to the distributed minutes. None were offered, so Garin declared the minutes accepted as distributed.

Then Garin reported to RA members about the meeting of UM retiree associations' representatives with the new UM President Tim Wolfe. President Wolfe identified expenses facing the UM. The largest expenses are salaries, wages, and benefits; these expenses make up 27% of the UM budget. President Wolfe declared that the current level of benefit expenditures is unsustainable. Benefits for UM retirees amount to $14 million.

The retiree associations' reps were told that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may offer a way to relieve some of the pressure on the benefits expenses. Under the ACA, retirees could be subsidized from the UM benefits fund while enrolling in alternative insurance plans offered by third party insurance plans.

Garin noted and recognized that our UMSL-RA member, Fred Wilke, is one of the two retiree representatives on the System's Retiree, Salary, and Benefits Committee. Fred reports regularly to the UMSL-RA board and to the UMSL-RA semi-annual members' meetings and luncheons.

Garin informed the group that President Wolfe announced the creation of a new position in his administration, the position of System Constituent Communicator. The new position will be held by Melanie Barger. She will send out and receive information related to UM functioning and functions. Garin noted that the retiree associations' reps felt this will help associations to send out and share newsletters, a missing bonding mechanism between retiree organizations right now.

Next Garin took questions from the members and one member asked him to distinguish between long term liabilities verses expenditures, terms used earlier in Garin's recounting of President Wolfe's comments. Previously pension funding was labeled an expenditure not a long term liability in the budget planning, but President Wolfe announced now they will be. The difference/benefit is that long term liabilities can be funded by bond offerings.
Finally Garin recognized Past President Shirley Martin to present the slate of nominees for the two open RA officer positions and the three open RA board positions. This year the secretary and treasurer officer positions were to be elected. Martin, as nominating committee chair, presented the committee’s slate of Dennis Saunders for secretary and Steven Spaner for treasurer. The nominating committee slate for the three 2-year board positions were current members Harry Gaffney and Sharon Davis and new member Nancy Forbes. Past President Martin called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, nominations were closed and a motion to elect the slate of nominees by acclamation was moved. The slate of nominees was elected unanimously by acclamation.

The 2013-2014 UMSL-RA officers and board members are: David Garin, president; David Ganz, vice-president; Steven Spaner, treasurer; Dennis Saunders, secretary; Shirley Martin, past president; and Gary Burger, Lawrence Barton, Don Phares, Sharon Davis, Harry Gaffney, Nancy Forbes, board members.

President Garin wished all members a good summer and adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Spaner, retired secretary
UMSL Retirees Association
UMSL Retirees Association
Treasurer’s Report

June 5, 2012

Beginning Balance 12/1/2011: $5028.09

Deposits from
12/02/2012-05/29/2012
Holiday lunch $1360.50
Life memberships $281.00
Annual dues $805.00

Total Deposits $2446.50

Expenses from
12/02/12- 05/22/2012
Fall newsletter $146.00
Glen Echo rental $1927.50
Spring newsletter $699.86
Bank correction $15.00
Stamps $45.00

Total Expenses $2833.36

Balance on 05/30/2012 $4641.23

Submitted by:

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Rick Blanton, Treasurer