

UMSL Retirees Association Board Meeting Minutes: 2012 September 14

Present: David Garin, David Ganz, Rick Blanton, Steven Spaner, Shirley Martin, Lol Barton, Sharon Davis, Harry Gaffney, Cindy Vantine (campus liaison), Fred Wilke (RSB rep).

The meeting was called to order by board president Dave Garin at 10:03 am. Dave passed out an agenda for the meeting.

Item #1: Garin brought up the issue of the fee to charge for the holiday luncheon. The fee charged last time did not cover the costs. Lol Barton suggested limiting the menu to soup and salad. Dave Ganz disagreed. Rick Blanton noted that the RA does not have to cover the Annual/Spring luncheon which effectively cuts a \$25 per person fee in half (assuming the member attends both luncheons).

Ganz moved that the fee for the UMSL-RA **holiday luncheon be set at \$20/person**. If expenses exceed the income, the RA will cover the residual expenses. Rick seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

Garin suggested **adding a solicitation for donations to the association on the luncheon invitation**. Steven Spaner moved the suggestion. Ganz seconded. Cindy Vantine suggested to add the following statement to the invitation: "I cannot attend but I would like to contribute to the association." **The motion passed.**

Garin suggested the association invite the new UM president Tim Wolfe and his wife. The board members agreed. Garin and Cindy will construct and send the invitation and Cc: the UMSL Chancellor.

Garin further suggested that the association invite an orthopedic physician as a post-luncheon presenter to discuss joint pain management. The board members agreed. Garin will pursue invitation.

Shirley Martin suggested that the RA should invite presentations on package trips/tours as are being presented to the alumni through the Alumni Association. This will be pursued for future luncheons.

Item #2: Garin reported on the recent retirees associations meeting with new UM president Tim Wolfe. Garin reported surprise over a report of a low % of retirees in the UM health insurance program. Fred Wilke noted that only employees who retire with 30 or more years service will receive the most beneficial health care premium. Most UM retirees retire with less than 30 years service. Shirley asked if the health care premiums will be going up and if the pension fund is safe. Garin reported that the Affordable Care Act will have no impact on retirees health care coverage or premiums. Previous reports by Fred have indicated the pension fund is safe.

Fred reported that not much is happening on the UM Retirement, Salaries, and Benefits Committee that affects retirees. Most of the actions will affect salaried employees.

Ganz suggested that the UMSL-RA should develop a pre-retiree mentor group and sponsor seminars that offer counseling for pre-retirees on health care benefits. The board supported the suggestion.

Item #3: Garin explained that retirees do not get invitations/solicitations for charitable donations from UMSL. Active employees used to only receive solicitations from United Way, now they receive solicitations from United Way, A&E Council, and other organizations through the Charitable Giving Campaign.

Ganz urged that the RA request being included in the campaign to recognize that the retirees are part of the UMSL community. Indeed, Garin reported that cash donations by retirees to UM are about \$2 million.

Garin will pursue the request.

Item #4: Dave Ganz suggested the RA piggy-back on the UMSL Jubilee Celebration and offer informational seminars for soon-to-be-retirees. Shirley suggested inviting school and college deans and department chairs to events offered for soon-to-be-retirees so they can benefit from the information.

Ganz noted that there is a Jubilee web site linked from the UMSL web site with the schedule of Jubilee events. UMSL.edu email holders are getting the Jubilee information postings but non-umsl.edu email accounts are not. Steve noted this is not building the retirees a place in the UM community and this is an unresolved problem.

Sharon Davis suggested that departments should be encouraged to involve retirees in their Jubilee preparations. Rick volunteered to work with Shirley to move this action forward.

Item #5: Garin presented a report of the formation of an Emeritus College. The College would offer courses and lectures. Arizona State and Yale are examples of places where this concept has been implemented. UM-KC retirees are pursuing this idea on their campus. Ganz noted that UM Extension is now renamed UM Professional and Continuing Education. No action was proposed at this meeting.

Item #6: Garin called for additions and corrections to the September 14, 2012 Treasurer's Report submitted by Rick Blanton (see attachment) and the Minutes of the last Board meeting, UMSL Retirees Association Board Meeting Minutes: 2011 September 19. Hearing no additions or changes, Garin asked for a **vote to accept the report and minutes. Both documents were accepted.** Blanton noted that there have been many savings over the past UMSL-RA budget year, but of the 700+ UMSL retirees, only about 200 are retiree association members.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven D. Spaner, secretary
UMSL-Retirees Association

September 14, 2012 Treasurer's Report

Balance on June 6, 2012:		\$4641.23
Income:		
Deposit June 15, 2012	\$ 245.00	
Deposit August 15, 2012	\$ 42.00	
Expenses:		
Bought Envelopes, 6/19/12	\$ 135.78	
Current Balance (Sept 14, 2012)		\$4792.45

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Blanton
UMSL-RA Treasurer