

UMSL Retirees Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Glen Echo Country Club
December 15, 2023

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

A. Welcome and Call to Order: President Melissa Hattman called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

B. Approval of October 25, 2023 Minutes: Minutes were approved as written.

C. Treasurer's Report: No new income reported since the last meeting. There was a small expense, \$14.42 for decorations for the holiday luncheon. Steve clarified that the first page of his report reflects income and expenditures from October 2023-December 2023. The second page, which will be distributed at today's luncheon, reflects income and expenditures from June 2023-December 2023. Steve mentioned that at some point, the board will need to discuss future plans for the CD. The first distribution from the current CD will occur in April. The CD will mature 18 months from September 2023.

C. Committee/Association Reports:

In the interest of time, discussion centered on details for today's holiday luncheon. Reports from Membership and Events were a part of the board packet.

Debbie Kettler reported that there are 52 RSVPs for today's luncheon, which is a decline from our usual 65 RSVPs. Debbie sent several emails to encourage attendance and which resulted in a few more attendees. A possible cause for the decline in attendees could be the use of email invitations instead of mailed invitations. In fact, 49 emails were undeliverable. There was a suggestion that we go back to mailed invitations—possibly using a postcard in order to save on postage.

We will continue this discussion at the March meeting in order to finalize plans for the June 14th Spring luncheon.

The process for the annual membership renewals will also be discussed at the March meeting. Mimi agreed to bring options to that meeting. We continue to look for strategies to increase visibility. Melissa and Mimi gave a presentation to the Faculty Senate and a presentation to the Staff Association is scheduled for April, 2024.

Melissa outlined the program for the luncheon which will include: a brief welcome; recognizing of current Board members; acknowledging ROTY recipient, Beverly Sporleder; acknowledging new members; a quick recap of activities and plans for next semester. The ROTY nomination form, 6-month Treasurer's report (6/23-12/23) and minutes from the June 9, 2023 Business meeting will be on each table.

Melissa will conclude the program by beginning the new tradition of drawing a name to award a free ticket to next year's Holiday luncheon to an attendee that brings a donation to the Triton Pantry. She will conclude the brief program by reminding all attendees to participate in the "UMSL Serves" initiative and to "like" the Retirees Association on Facebook.

E. Old Business:

- ad hoc Committee Update-Bylaws review: The ad hoc committee has met and worked on the document and will have the document ready for approval/revision at the March meeting. The goal is to have the two documents (constitution and the bylaws) available for approval by the membership at the June 14th meeting.
- Contributions to Retirees Association through the Alumni Association: Mary Bosnick clarified that the Alumni Association **cannot accept** contributions designated for the Retirees Association. The Retirees Association can accept donations; however donations are not tax deductible.

F. Review of Retirees Association Goals for Spring, 2024:

- New member recruitment—Presentation to the Staff Association in April.
- Submission of FY25 budget proposal to Alumni Association, March—We will look at this year's budget and consider any changes at the March meeting.
- Provide social, volunteer and educational opportunities for Retirees Association—Possibly work with Tanisha Stevens for volunteer opportunities that could be added to our Facebook page. Possibly organize a "Retirees Speaker Bureau." Helene Sherman discussed the current "Circle of Educators" events. Although this is not a RA event, we could mention it in our newsletter.
- Membership enrollment period is from April 15th-May 31st.
- Plans are in the works for an activity in April—a campus tour narrated by Dave Ganz.

G. Announcements:

- Next Meeting: March 20, 2024, 10am, Glen Echo Country Club.

H. Adjourn: Sue Baber reminded the group that if they take pictures at the luncheon, please send them to her for the newsletter. The meeting adjourned at 11:01am.

Prepared by Candi Agnew, UMSLRA Secretary