

## **Minutes of the UMSL Retirees Association Board Meeting: March 17, 2008**

Board Officers and Members Present: David Garin, president; David Ganz, vice-president; Steven Spaner, secretary; L. "Sandy" MacLean, treasurer; Shirley Martin, past-president; Larry Friedman; Sharon Davis; Fred Wilke. Also present from University Events: Loy Harvey.

Luncheon: President David Garin opened the meeting with a request for suggestions of a date to hold the Mid-Year UMSL Retirees Association Luncheon. The best date was a date that would coordinate with Chancellor Tom George's schedule. The date chosen and approved was Thursday, June 12, 2008.

Officer and Board Nominations: Shirley Martin, Nominating Committee chair, suggested three Retiree Association members to be appointed to the Nominating Committee: Don Greer, Rick Blanton, and Jane Starling. Board members approved. A protracted discussion was begun relating to the officers and board members terms and the positions that are to be voted on at the June 12, 2008 Retirees Association Business Meeting. The final determination was that there are two (2) full-term (2 years) board positions to be filled, one (1) remaining term (1 year) board position to be filled, the president's and vice-president's full-term (2 years) positions to be filled, and the remaining term (1 year) of the treasurer's position to be filled. Board members and officers indicating that they would be willing to stand for reelection were: Larry Freidman, Norman Seay, and Sandy MacLean for Board; and David Garin and David Ganz for president and vice-president, respectively. UMSL-RA member, Grace Kennedy has indicated interest and willingness to be placed in nomination for the remaining treasurer's term. Nominating Committee chair, Shirley Martin, will take these names to the Committee and prepare a slate of nominees to be presented to the attending members of the UMSL-RA during the Business Meeting of the Mid-Year UMSL Retirees Association Luncheon. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting according to UMSL-RA Bylaws. The election of Officers and Board members will take place at the mid-year luncheon according to UMSL-RA Bylaws.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy MacLean presented the Treasurer's Report. The report is appended to these minutes.

Newsletter: Dave Garin noted that the UMSL-RA newsletter does not have some of the items that other retiree newsletters have: e.g., photos, regular columns on medical issues, columns on tax issues. He asked members "should we have more?" Dave asked for the establishment of an *ad hoc* committee to investigate the costs of the newsletter the UMSL-RA presently prints and distributes and the cost of adding additional features to it. Steve Spaner suggested adding to the committee charge an investigation into making the newsletter an electronically delivered document to save on postage. A motion was moved and seconded to establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Newsletter Content and Format. Motion was approved. Board member Sharon Davis volunteered to establish and chair this committee. Board members approved the appointment of Sharon Davis as chair. Larry Friedman noted that the UM-C Retirees Association (MURA) newsletter had an article on lowering medical expenses and suggested we reprint it in our newsletter. It was also mentioned that this year's Missouri income tax filing

offers some retirees the opportunity to exempt pension payments from State taxation depending on the amount of pension remuneration. Dave Garin said he would put a piece on MO Pension Exemption and Social Security/Social Security Disability Deduction in the president's remarks in the next Retirees News, UMSL-RA's newsletter.  
(<http://dor.mo.gov/tax/personal/ptc/pension.htm>)

Issues for President Gary Forsee: Fred Wilke reported that the Retirement and Staff Benefits Committee recommended a catch-up COLA for all retirees. It would come in two parts. First, a COLA for this year based on the usual formula. Second, a catch-up amounting to one fifth of what is needed to get back on track, again following the usual formula. He noted the next meeting of the Retirement and Staff Benefits Committee will be April 29, 2008. The President does not usually attend this committee's meetings, but with President Forsee being new to his position, he or Executive Vice President Gordon Lamb might be in attendance. Dave Garin noted that retirees will have an opportunity to bring issues before President Forsee and Interim Human Resources Vice-President Karl Danuser on April 22 at the meeting of representatives of the four campus retiree groups.

Email for Retirees: Steve Spaner reported on his latest efforts to secure UM email privileges/accounts for all retirees. Steve sent a note to presidential Chief of Staff, David Russell, upon the first day in office of President Forsee. The note made the case for the policy that all UM retirees be given the option to retain their UM email address as a retirement benefit. Board members suggested that Steve also forward the note to UMSL Chancellor Tom George so that he is both aware of the proposal and hopefully will champion the proposal at an upcoming / next Campus Officers meeting. Steve agreed and will offer to meet with Chancellor George to give further explanation.

Retiree Education: Dave Ganz reported that Brenda McPhail would like to set up an educational program on financial planning and planned giving for retirees to educate them on the options and benefits. The UMSL-RA Board moved and seconded the motion that Dave invite Brenda to the next regular Board meeting to hear what these programs will include and who will be sponsoring them. Motion approved. Parenthetically, member Sharon Davis has noted that she is coordinating a program "Wills, POD, TOD's, etc." June 12, prior to the UMSL-RA luncheon. During the October 4, 2007 UMSL-RA Board meeting, she brought up the discussion of having various programs for retirees. At that time she volunteered to pursue the availability and planning for such programs. Sharon explained that the Estate Planning attorney who will be presenting the program this June is doing so at No Charge (many Estate Planning Attorneys to this). The room charge is about \$80. No refreshments will be provided as the program will be followed by the luncheon. On March 26, 2008 Sharon coordinated a similar program for the active staff during "Focus on Your Future" - different attorney but same type of program.

Motion to adjourn followed. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Steven D. Spaner  
UMSL-Retirees Association Secretary

