

UMSL Retirees Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Glen Echo Country Club  
August 16, 2023

Attendees: Candi Agnew, Sue Baber, Mimi Duncan, Tom Eyssell, Dave Ganz, Dave Garin, Melissa Hattman, Grace Kennedy, Debbie Kettler, Helene Sherman, Steve Spaner, Cindy Vantine. Mary Bosnick, Alumni Association (Guest)

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Welcome and Call to Order: President Melissa Hattman called the meeting to order at 10:02am. New board member, Grace Kennedy was welcomed to her first meeting.

Minutes from the June 9, 2023 board and business meetings were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Spaner. The report was discussed as written, highlighting a balance of \$13,636. Steve recalled that in early years of the association, funds were invested in a CD. He mentioned the possibility of doing the same in order to take advantage of current favorable interest rates.

*Addendum: After the 8/16 meeting, the Board was asked by Treasurer Spaner on 8/30 to vote on and approve an opportunity to use funds to purchase \$5000 5% 18 month CD effective 9/1. An email vote was conducted, and the action passed, 7-4, with all board members voting (with the exception of ex-officio members.) With the majority of the board voting to approve this purchase, the treasurer will purchase the aforementioned CD on September 1, 2023.*

### **Committee/Association Reports**

**Membership:** Mimi Duncan. As of August 14, the response rate for the "opt-in" postcard for UMSL was 22. The numbers for the other campuses: Columbia, 96; Kansas City, 28; Rolla, 15. It is hoped that we will see an uptick in new members from this new initiative.

**Planning and Events:** Cindy Vantine. The committee is very appreciative of the event support received from the Alumni Association. Several possible outings were discussed, and it was agreed to focus on a possible outing at a winery with details to be reported by email. A discussion of the annual luncheons was discussed. The holiday luncheon will remain as a paid event (\$35) and there will be a bartender available. The spring luncheon will remain a free event but retirees who bring a guest will be charged \$35. There will be no bartender for the spring luncheon. Luncheons will be subsidized by the funds available budgeted from our affinity group status.

The following events were discussed. August 25, State of the University Address: The Retiree of the Year awards to Beverly Sporleder (faculty) and Yolanda Weathersby Marshall (staff) will be presented at this event. September 15, Red and Gold Day and September 21, Founders Dinner. These events will be added to our social media site. Volunteers will be needed for the Alumni Association 5K walk/run. More events to commemorate the campus' 60<sup>th</sup> year anniversary are being planned.

**Communications:** Sue Baber. Issues with administrator status for our Facebook page have been resolved. Members are encouraged to become a "friend" of our page. There was a discussion clarifying library privileges for retirees. Articles for the upcoming newsletter should

be sent to Sue by October 1<sup>st</sup> for publication in early November. Candi Agnew has agreed to continue to provide the information for the “In Memoriam” section.

**Nominations/ROTY:** Helene Sherman. A “fact sheet” for the procedures for the Retiree of the Year award will be created to clarify the process and provide a smooth transition for future selections. A new nomination form will be created with the possibility of having the form available online as well as in the newsletter. The usual July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for nominations will be revised to accommodate a change in the date of the Chancellor’s State of the University Address.

**Alumni Association:** Mary Bosnick. The UMSLRA will be represented by Melissa at the Alumni Leadership Council Committee (ALCC) meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup>. We are fortunate to have UMSLRA board member Dave Ganz also serves a member of Alumni Association Board.

### **Old Business: Eligibility Requirement for ROTY**

Continuing the earlier discussion, a draft of a revised nomination form will be sent to the board for input. Self-nominations will be encouraged/accepted. There was a suggestion that in addition to the stipend, which is provided by the university, the winners should be offered a one-year honorary membership to the Retirees Association.

### **New Business**

What does it mean to be an AA Affinity group? Mary Bosnick provided a presentation which included the expectations and an explanation of the role of the Alumni Association with the UMSLRA. Highlights included: deadline for budget request (end of March, with a decision in June); UMSLRA is covered under the Alumni Association liability insurance; donations to the Alumni Association can be earmarked for the UMSLRA.

How to access Funds/Budget from Alumni Association? Melissa and Steve agreed to have this discussion outside of the meeting in order clarify the procedure.

How and When budgets are created for RA activities/General Reimbursement Policy? There was a discussion on whether we should have a specific budget for RA committees.

Governing Documents Review: An ad hoc committee of Melissa Hattman, Dave Garin and Tom Eyssell are working on a review of the UMSLRA Constitution and the Bylaws. The anticipated timeline is to have a draft of the Constitution available for discussion at the October meeting, then begin work on the Bylaws beginning after the first of the year. The expectation is both documents will be completed, approved by the board and brought to the association for final approval in June, 2024. It is expected that the changes will be implemented in 2024-25.

President Goals: Melissa briefly discussed her goals as UMSLRA president. She reminded the board of the scheduled October 5<sup>th</sup>, four-campus Zoom meeting to discuss benefits. Questions should be submitted prior to the Zoom meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12 Noon. After a splendid lunch, board photos were taken.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, October 25, 2023, 10:00 am, Glen Echo Country Club.**

Prepared by Candi Agnew, UMSLRA Secretary