

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**September 19, 2018**

**Members present:** Kay Barbee, Brian Foster, Betsy Garrett, Susan Hazelwood, Ken Hutchinson, Barb Harris, Nancy Johnson, Ina Linville, Judy Maseles, Dick Otto, Leslie Palmer, Gary Smith, Marty Townsend, Art Jago, Jo Turner, Maggie Walter, Rob Weagley, Libby Miederhoff, Ina Linville, Tom Henderson, Rose Porter, Linda Cook and Larry Windmoeller

The meeting was called to order by President Jo Turner at 1:58 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Leslie Palmer

The minutes of the MURA meeting held on Wednesday, July 18, 2018, were distributed via email. The minutes were approved as distributed.

**President’s Report:** Jo Turner

President Jo Turner welcomed Board members. She noted that some members are observing Yom Kippur today and extended the Board’s well-wishes to those members. She apologized for the conflict with this meeting and affirmed that the MURA Board will make every effort to set future calendar events in a way that respects all beliefs.

President Turner made the following remarks:

1. Asked the Board for any comments or input on the new location for the Board meeting. She thanked Linda Cook for coordinating the location.
2. Thanked the Communications team for their work on the August newsletter and mentioned that extra copies of the newsletter are available. Kay Barbee volunteered to contact HR and take a quantity to be included in retiree packets. Others are welcome to take extra copies as needed.
3. Reminded the Board that MURA’s fall information meeting is set for Saturday, September 29, in Columbia. The program includes:
* MURA updates
* Retiree Benefits Update – Carol Wilson and Marsha Fischer
* The University’s Commitment to Engagement—All Things Missouri and More – Marshall Stewart, Chief Engagement Officer for UM System and MU Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement
* Legislative Update from the MU Flagship Council

She noted that Treasurer Tom Richards is unable to attend, so will provide a brief written update for the next MURA newsletter. He will also plan to attend the MURA annual meeting in March. We will “livestream” the information meeting so that retirees can join the meeting without traveling. Thanks to a partnership with MU Extension, members can participate by using computer, iPad, or smartphone to log-in to an internet address. While

the program targets the interests of MURA members, we have welcomed other retirees to listen to the presentations. MURA members were invited to submit questions in advance via email, but none have been received to date. There will also be opportunities for questions from the live audience and from those participating on-line. After the meeting, we’ll post video segments on the MURA website so that others can take advantage of the information that will be shared. No pre-registration is required for the meeting, but all MURA Board members are urged to attend.

1. Announced that she has asked Margie Sable, Past-President, to form the nominating committee and prepare a slate of officers to be presented at the January meeting. The five- person committee is to include the three most recent past-presidents (Margie, Marty Townsend, Tom Henderson) plus two others appointed by the President from MURA’s membership at large and/or the Board of Directors. The committee shall have no more than three faculty or three staff persons and minimum of two members of either gender. If interested in serving on the committee, please let President Turner know immediately after this meeting.
2. Explained that she planned to deviate from the traditional agenda in order to better manage Board business that requires action or discussion. She asked Board members to be prepared to indicate how their information will be addressed at future Board meetings. She proposed that the agenda be structured in this priority order:
* Action items—need Board motion, discussion, vote
* Discussion items – need Board input
* Reports—information to be shared with Board

**Treasurer's Report**: Rob Weagley (see reports)

Attached is the cash flow statement for the two-month period ending on August 31, 2018.

MURA’s cash decreased by $3,227.85 during this time frame because of a $4,985 final contribution to the Kitty Dickerson Scholarship Fund. This completes MURA’s $10,000 commitment to match member donations.

Other observations regarding the financial statements:

* Dues for FY19 are paltry, compared to last year’s large influx of members. Note that annual dues collected to date are 10% of collected lifetime dues.
* MURA events are now largely being collected online through the Alumni Spaces (AS) portal. These fees are now reflected as a specific disbursement to Alumni Spaces. This cost to MURA continues to be a 5% transaction fee. This 5% fee covers both the cost to use the Alumni Spaces portal and the credit card transaction fee. The amounts shown on the statement of cash flows are now gross receipts, including the Alumni Spaces fee, Disbursements, and Disbursements for Alumni Spaces.
* Reports from Alumni Spaces include receipts to any event in the covered period. The distribution of the income is conducted by use of the registration lists.
* The Board authorized a contribution by MURA to the MURA Scholarship Endowment Fund up to $10,000. The transfer made in July ($4,985) represents the final Board match for member contributions made, for the period from January 1 through June 30.

Overall, the Association is in adequate financial condition.

Susan Hazelwood motioned that the Treasurer’s Report be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Dick Otto. Motion passes; Treasurer’s Report stands approved.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Larry Windmoeller

Larry has contacted all of the members of the review committee; the Awards Selection Committee has been confirmed for 2019. Many thanks to Larry.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Barb Harris

The article in the last newsletter about making sure MURA has current email addresses caught the attention of members; many have been asking questions and/or sending email updates. These updated members will be getting bi-weekly updates. The newsletter process is working great. The next newsletter will be prepared in mid-October if anyone has ideas or suggestions to be included, be sure to let Barb know. It is also requested that everyone take pictures that can be forwarded to Nancy Johnson to be posted on line including the names of the people in the pictures. Also, if someone is available to take pictures at the Fall Information meeting, the October Breakfast meeting and/or the Past-President’s meeting; please contact Barb and let her know.

**GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS:** Tom Henderson for Mary Anne McCollum

The Flagship Council will be meeting with President Choi in the near future and will obtain additional details regarding the issues discussed at the President’s recent state-of-the University address.

President, Jo Turner, expressed many thanks to Tom and Mary Anne for coordinating the legislative forum and structuring the discussion format for the MURA breakfast meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, at the Country Club of Missouri. The amendment/ballot information was excellent and the ballot language website for follow up greatly appreciated.

**KITTY DICKERSON SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:** Gary Smith

Kitty Dickerson’s son, Deke Dickerson, is a professional musician and has agreed to appear on stage as a fundraiser for the MURA Kitty Dickerson Scholarship. The committee has decided to target Fall 2019 to give more time to coordinate with Deke’s travel schedule which also includes the Roots and Blues Festival in Columbia the weekend of September 28. It is hoped that Deke might work with local musicians in organizing the concert which would help keep costs down and perhaps do a meet and greet. Gary will follow up on the outcome of the MURA volunteer effort at the MU Bookstore during the first week of the Fall semester. The names of those who worked, how much money was raised and positive comments will be reported. Retirees will again be called on to volunteer during the first week of the Spring semester.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Dick Otto (see reports)

There are 961 members in good standing.  Annual members paid through 2018 number 109.  Annual members paid through 2019 number 22 and there are 2 paid through 2020.  There are 828 LIFE MEMBERS.  A list of 22 annual members that last paid for 2017 was distributed.   It was noted that this list, like all membership lists, is subject to change at all times.  The 22 people who last paid dues for 2017 will be dropped from the e-mail list serve. Dick appreciates getting checks for membership but emphasized the importance of obtaining complete contact information especially email address of the new member; thus, the importance of completing a membership form. Further, the membership form needs to be updated to reflect the new dollar amounts. There were 40 members who last paid for 2017 in July; 21 of those members renewed after being contacted.

**ombudsman:** Marty Townsend

In filling her own prescriptions for shingles and pneumonia vaccines, Townsend discovered that receiving the vaccines at certain pharmacies (as opposed to receiving them in the doctor’s office) will result in significant co-pays.  In pursuing clarification on behalf of all MU Retirees, Townsend learned from Carol Wilson, UM System Human Resources Director for Health Benefits, that Retirees who have United Health Care coverage may obtain a list of local pharmacies that can bill directly to Medicare Part B for shingles and pneumonia vaccines.  Retirees who have already paid the co-pay may file for a reimbursement, the form for which may be found at [www.uhcretiree.com](http://www.uhcretiree.com).  An article about the coverage appears in the August 2018 *MURA Newsletter.* Many thanks to Marty for her time and efforts on behalf of all MURA members.

**Program COMMITTEE:** Betsy Garrett

* The Fall Social is from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 25, at Providence Point. There are over 112 people registered as of today’s day; this should be a very fun event.
* The Fall Information Meeting is from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday, September 29, at the Country Club of Missouri. Barb Harris managed questions submitted in advance by email. Art Jago will in the organization of questions that come in on the internet.
* All felt the legislative breakfast had gone very well; many thanks to Tom Henderson and Mary Anne McCollum for arranging and conducting an interesting and informative breakfast program.
* The Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, December 15, at Reynolds Alumni Center. Michael Porter has agreed to play the piano and Dick Otto will develop a quiz for the tables.
* The Spring Social and Schroeder Picnic are being merged into one event (Schroeder Spring Picnic). The Twin Lakes shelter has been reserved for April 17 with a back-up location in case the weather is bad.

Many thanks to Betsy in working with the committee to coordinate these activities for MU retirees. Great job.

**retirement, Health & Other Benefits Advisory COMMITTEE:** Kay Barbee

Kay has sent a note to all members of the committee introducing herself as the committee chairperson. Michelle Marsden, Executive Assistant, Provost Office, is the contact person in Jesse Hall to update the committee website. A second note will be sent out when it is determined with the help of Michelle Marsden who is and is not on the committee.

**EX-OFFICIO, AD HOC, AND OTHER SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT:** Libby Miederhoff

The Audit Committee has completed the audit of MU Retirees Association Financial Records for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

The deposits to bank statements and financial reports were traced. Disbursements to source documents, bank statements and financial reports were also traced. The committee’s findings are presented below.

Bank Statements: The committee noted that for the months of February through May 2018 there were no complete bank statements, only screen shots of partial activity, sometimes for overlapping periods. The June statement was complete including copies of checks cleared. The committee is aware that during that period Central Bank transitioned from mailed statements to electronic statements.

The committee recommends that the Treasurer, upon notification from the bank that the statement is ready, print the complete statement for the file and reconcile it to the checkbook.

Spring Social Fundraiser for MURA Scholarship: It was noted that cash and checks totaling $950 collected from MURA members were turned over to MU Advancement and are not reflected in MURA Financial Statements while contributions received through Alumni Spaces were deposited by ACH to MURA’s bank account. Subsequently a check was written to the University for the gross amount with the Alumni Spaces fee absorbed by MURA. The committee understands this was the first time for a fundraising event. The two different ways of handling these funds resulted in an understatement of both income and expense by the amount of cash and checks given directly to the University.

It is recommended that future events of this nature record all income received in MURA financial records as well as all disbursements.

Alumni Spaces Registration System: Statements from Alumni Spaces leave a lot to be desired and various attempts to improve the situation are underway. Reports are often illegible and do not always contain information about the event for each payment so income is distributed to various events based on registration lists. The committee noted deposits from Alumni Spaces are recorded in the financial statements net of fees which understate both income and expense.

The committee recommends these deposits be recorded in the financial statements at gross and the fee expense also be recorded. We understand the incoming Treasurer has begun to do that for FY 2019 transactions.

It is further recommended that other options be explored for accepting online registrations and payments for MURA events. Vendors should: (1) have a system that is easy to use; (2) provide receipts indicating the event and amount; (3) supply timely, legible reports containing all the pertinent information needed to record accurate financial transactions; and (4) transmit timely payments to MURA.

Because of the shortcomings of Alumni Spaces Registration System which is used to collect 50% of MURA income, the audit committee cannot express an opinion on the accuracy of the Statement of Cash Flows for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

Libby expresses appreciation on behalf of the committee for the cooperation of the MURA Treasurer.

Jo Turner expresses thanks to Libby Miederhoff and the Audit Committee for taking their time and using their expertise in compiling the MURA Audit for Fiscal Year 2018. Gratitude and appreciation on behalf of MURA duly acknowledged for the efforts of the auditors, Rob Weagley and Judy Maseles for their support and lead in working with on-line registrations and collections with Alumni Spaces.

Ken Hutchinson motioned to accept the Audit Committee Report as presented; Susan Hazelwood seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**MU Engagement council:** Ina Linville

The MU Engagement Council meets monthly. Turner previously asked Ina to be the MURA representative to interface with MU Alumni Association to generate volunteer opportunities for MU retirees. However, the Black and Gold Brigade volunteer opportunities concept in place with MAA is now nixed. MAA felt the brand would lend itself to being mistaken as another organization to join rather than opportunities to join in. Instead, MAA is launching a mentoring program; however, Ina expressed concern that due diligence for mitigating risk for student and/or mentor protection has not been addressed. Ina will continue to work with them to improve their system appropriateness for retirees which is pretty standard for mentoring programs in general. Susan Reno will meet with Jo and Ina regarding engagement and how we retirees can be more involved in the engagement effort.

**NEWSLETTER REPORT:** Maggie Walter

The Communications Team set November 15 as the publication date for the November issue of the MURA newsletter. This means the printed version should be sent out via U.S. mail on that date. The online version will be available October 29 via the website and email. The print version will be black and white, but the electronic version will be in color. So far, it looks as if it will be a 12-page publication.

The newsletter content is to be submitted within a week of an event and sooner if content is not tied to an event. Text copy should be sent to Maggie Walter, newsletter editor, at waltermr@missouri.edu, and photos along with cut lines identifying persons should be sent to Nancy Johnson, who will post on Facebook, at JohnsonN@missouri.edu. The rest of the team will snag photos from Facebook as needed. This is in the testing stage, but so far, so good.

This new process should help to speed up the editing, designing and proofing process. Again, so far, so good. Thanks to all.

**past-presidents:** Ken Hutchinson

The past-presidents will be meeting tomorrow, Thursday, September 20, 2018. The past-presidents meetings get a good turn out with good discussions. Past-President Rod Gelatt has moved permanently to Arizona.

**TOTAL ReWARDS ADVISORY COMMittee:** Rose Porter

Regarding annual enrollment, everyone will be getting their letter; Rose has asked HR to include a comparison of each individual’s last year enrollment and what it looks like this year for a cost differentiation. HR will have to re-negotiate next year as the current agreement was a three-year contract as is typical. A letter will be coming out at the end of October.

**United Way:** Tom Henderson

* The Campus United Way Campaign will commence on September 25, 2018, with a kickoff breakfast at the Columns Club at Memorial Stadium.
* The online pledge link for those with an EDU account and password (pawprint) can be accessed at Unitedway.missouri.edu.
* Last Year’s contribution by retirees to the Campus United Way Campaign totaled $93,377. It came in the form of $75,064 in paper gifts and $18,313 in on line giving.
* A letter has been prepared to send to retirees via an email list that is managed by HR at the UM System. At the time of this report preparation, it is not clear whether use of the list will be made available for purposes of United Way fundraising. Tom is waiting for a response through Ms. Michelle Piranio, Interim System Internal Auditor, on whether or not the HR UM System retirees email list can be used to send the letter.
* A possible communication alternative might be to use the MURA list serve to send bi-weekly email blasts to MURA members regarding United Way fundraising and use the MURA website as an information venue for information sharing.
* Tom has also requested the printing of return envelopes to use for retirees who wish to write a check and put their checks in the US mail.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**New Business**

**Four-campus Leadership team**: Linda Cook

Once each semester the retiree leadership teams from the system campuses meet with President Choi in Columbia. Each team has previously submitted to Linda possible agenda items which are topics of interest to MURA members. A representative from each campus gives an update on current activities and events and the agenda items are discussed and addressed by President Choi. There is usually an updated from the System Human Resources personnel. Linda is asking for member input on possible

agenda items for discussion at the 4-Campus Leadership Team meeting scheduled for next week, Thursday, September 27.

The following are the items generated as possible agenda items for the September 27 meeting with President Choi:

1. Flagship campus (new definition related to one University concept)
2. UM legislative initiatives
3. Where do retirees fit in the Missouri Compacts for Achieving Excellence Plan?
4. How will the “move toward excellence” affect support staff (workload)?
5. Describe the matching funds concept for the Missouri Compacts Investment Plans
6. Member Survey being conducted by MURA
7. How to recapture the classroom experience and quality in online classes
8. Diversity Plan Update (for example, the percentage of women of color and other minorities receiving tenure has decreased)
9. Library funding (other campuses can’t use our resources)

Ken Hutchinson posed consideration of whether the above are everyday items we want to talk about, but are not necessarily MURA taking a position. The question is whether the above items are being considered discussion or inquiry from a position of interest. Discussion followed regarding whether the Board representatives are commenting as individual retirees at the 4-campus meeting; or, whether the MURA representative can or cannot advocate on the above items on behalf of MURA. Linda and Jo will edit the list of items for Jo to present at the past-president’s meeting in order to get items ready for the meeting next week.

**Old Business**

**PROPOSED SURVEY:** Art Jago

The Program Committee proposed a survey be conducted in the near future for the purpose of determining the needs and wishes of the MURA membership. An ad hoc committee met several times, submitted several drafts and subsequently put together a survey of 20 questions that would take about 10 minutes to complete. The survey has two purposes: (1) to assess from MURA members how well the MURA organization is meeting the objectives of MURA organization; and (2) how satisfied members are with the activities currently provided as well as what actions/events/activities might also be provided. The main purpose of the survey is to determine if the goals and objectives of the organization are being met and level of member satisfaction in general; or, how members feel they benefit from MURA membership and the value of the health care and other benefits to individual members. Some demographic information is being included such as number of years retired, etc. The survey is designed to keep the number of questions low but open-ended questions large and to keep it to about 10 minutes of time on line. The on-line survey will go out this Fall if the Board approves. Of the approximately 100 members, there are 200 or so who don’t or won’t use email. These approximately 200 members will be invited to find a computer on which they can respond to the survey. Possibly an extra stuffer might be forwarded in the newsletter mailing; or, perhaps the option to sign in in the electronic newsletter to complete the survey. There will be an attempt to find a way to make sure that all 1000 members get a chance to respond. Art proposes, if the group approves, to send the survey out this Fall and have results by the next Board meeting, January 16, 2019, for a discussion on how to deliver the results of the survey to the members. Jo Turner thanks Art and the ad hoc committee for a very thorough process and a product worthy of IRB approval.

**Kitty Dickerson Scholarhsip Match:** Dick Otto

MURA’s is working to have at least $100,000 in the MURA Kitty Dickerson Scholarship fund which was established as an endowment in MU Advancement. The goal is to award larger and/or more scholarships to dependents of MU staff who are currently employed. The MURA Board previously authorized up to $10,000 to match individual donations; the match was met in July. At the July 18, 2019, MURA Board of Director’s meeting, Margie Sable moved that MURA authorize another $10,000 to match gift money donations to the Kitty Dickerson scholarship fund. Following a discussion of the feasibility as well as timing of the additional match, the motion was withdrawn, in order to allow for additional discussion at a future board meeting. It was further suggested that the match be considered in the broader picture of raising funds for the scholarship in general. At this time, Dick Otto moved that MURA authorize another $10,000 to match gift money donations to the Kitty Dickerson scholarship fund from this period forward to June 30, 2019. Ken Hutchinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**AROHE:** Jo Turner

Rob Weagley will represent MURA at the AROHE Conference in three weeks. It is a good opportunity to meet with representatives from other campuses in order to become informed on what other campuses are doing. Rob Weagley will submit a report of the meeting to be forwarded to board members by Jo Turner. Thanks to Rob for representing MURA at the conference. Art Jago mentioned that related to looking at what others have done, the Big 10 has their own organization for organizing the organizations in the Big 10. Further, Jo suggested that Rob might enter into conversation with other higher education retiree representatives on their policy as advocate. What advocate policy mechanisms or other models are in place with other retiree organizations? Maggie suggested that it might be pertinent for the Executive Board to formulate the advocacy position which is then submitted to the entire group for comment and/or approval. Art noted that of the four goals or objectives in the MURA by laws, one of the stated objectives is advocacy. He further posed the question of how well MURA is serving members in this regard and/or how to better meet member needs. Political maneuvering, the 501C social welfare code, and the Flagship Council’s C4 code or “dark money” were all mentioned as factors pertaining to advocacy.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

The next meeting of the Board is Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Room 198 General Services Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie J. Palmer, MURA Secretary

**MURA Board Meeting**

**September 19, 2018**

 **PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

Call to order

Secretary’s report – review and approve minutes as distributed

President’s report

Treasurer’s report

Reports and action items from standing committees:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Awards | Larry Windmoeller |
| Communications  | Barb Harris |
| Education/Breakfasts | Dick and Anne Hessler |
| Finance | Rob Weagley |
| Governmental Affairs | Mary Anne McCollum |
| Kitty Dickerson Scholarship  | Gary Smith and Kee Groshong |
| Membership | Dick Otto |
| Nominating | Margie Sable |
| Ombudsmen | Bill Fisch and Marty Townsend |
| Past Presidents | Ken Hutchinson |
| Program | Betsy Garrett |
| Retirement, Health & Other Benefits | Kay Barbee |
| University Liaison-Admin | Linda Cook |

Reports and action items from special committees and liaisons:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audit Committee Chair | Libby Miederhoff |
| Facebook Administrator; Staff Council Liaison | Nancy Johnson |
| Faculty Council Liaison | Don Sievert |
| Historian | G. B. Thompson |
| MU Engagement Council Rep | Ina Linville |
| Newsletter Editors-in-Chief | Maggie Walter and Pat Smith |
| Osher Lifelong Learning Liaison | Barbara Schneider |
| Past-Presidents Rep | Ken Hutchinson |
| Total Rewards Advisory Committee Rep | Rose Porter |
| United Way Campaign Rep | Tom Henderson |
| Web Master | Judy Maseles |

New business

* Identify discussion points for meetings with Chancellor and President

Old business

* MURA member survey – Art Jago

Announcements



MURA membership numbers as of 9/17/2018

Paid TO: 2017 (Count=22)

Allmart, M

Archer, Stephen

Baxter, Charlotte

Christianson, Amy

Christianson, John

Gentzler, Lynn

Gentzler, Paul

Hartigan, Mary

Headley Joseph

Hediger, Marla

Holland, Deborah

Holland, Michael

Knipping, Nancy

Land, Norman

Lewis, Marvin

Libbus, Kay

Marshall, Carolyn

Marshall, John

Myers, Myrna

Naeger, Joyce

Poehlmann, Linda

Queathem, Peggy

Paid TO: 2018 (Count=109)

Paid TO: 2020 (Count=2)

Paid TO: 2099 (Count=828)

Members that last paid for 2017 = 22

Members in good standing

 (annual paid 2018 and beyond and

 Life Members (noted as 2099))

 2018 109

 2019 22

 2020 2

 2099 828

 Total **961**