



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2019

The MU Retirees Association (MURA) Board of Directors was called to order at 2:00 pm on September 18, 2019, in room 185 of the MU General Services Building.

Those in attendance were president Betsy Garrett; president elect Ruth Tofle; past president Jo Turner, secretary Mary Licklider; treasurer Donna Johanning; at-large members Brian Foster, Susan Hazelwood, Mary Jo Herde, Art Jago and Nancy Johnson; committee chairs Linda Cook, Ken Hutchinson, Mary Anne McCollum, Dick Otto, and Gary Smith; co-ombuds Marty Townsend, and ex officio members Ina Linville, Linda Lorenz, Libby Miederhoff, and Maggie Walter.

The president noted that the board's thoughts and good wishes are directed to Rose and Mike Porter and also to Richard Wallace's daughter.

The minutes of the July meeting were approved as distributed.

President's Report

The president's report included discussion of the following items:

- MURA activities during September and October
- Meeting of MURA leaders on September 9 with Chancellor Cartwright and Vice Chancellor Patty Haberberger, and their positive response to plans for MURA's increased visibility and to initial work on emeritus staff designation. The new MURA membership brochures will be distributed through the Benefits office and the generalist retirement counselors.
- Plans for the November newsletter. Pat Smith has communicated that she feels she no longer has the time to commit to being design editor for the MURA newsletter and has stepped down. She was thanked for her great service.
- Work led by Ruth Tofle and Gary Smith to identify and archive MURA history for its 30th year
- The president appointed Gary Smith as the new MURA historian. The appointment was approved.
- Asked Jo Turner to convene the nominating committee. Appointments to the committee will be made and nominees will be submitted at the January Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Donna Johanning presented the cash flow statement, and it was approved as distributed.

Standing Committee Reports

Finance Committee. President Betsy Garrett asked the treasurer to activate the finance committee to develop a budget and recommendations regarding the source(s) of matching funds paid out for the Kitty Dickerson Scholarship Fund. All committee chairs should expect contact from the finance committee members to provide information about anticipated expenses.

Program/Breakfasts – Ruth Tofle reported on program planning for the 2019-20 year:

- Thanks were extended to Dick and Anne Hessler for lining up speakers.
- MOREnet will record the fall informational meeting gratis.

- The holiday luncheon will be on December 6 at the Country Club of Missouri. The menu and cost of \$30 have been set. Entertainment planning is underway.
- There is a hold on the State Historical Society for the Spring and Ray Schroeder Social April 2.
- There will be a series of articles in the newsletter to highlight MURA history during its 30th year.

Scholarship Committee. Gary Smith reported on plans for the benefit concert on September 26 and announced a deadline of Wednesday, September 25, for turning in all tickets and/or money. He noted that purchasing tickets from individuals avoids the \$5.42 handling charge that applies to tickets purchased online.

Government Affairs. Mary Anne McCollum highlighted items in the report distributed at the meeting and attached to this email:

- The special legislative session approved the sales tax measure and 32 Gubernatorial appointments. Those appointments included Michael Williams to the Board of Curators and Robin Wenneker to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.
- Dudley McCarter is also expected to be appointed to the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.
- Prefiling of bills will open December 1 for the regular legislative session that convenes on January 8, 2020. The UM System is planning to ask again for \$10 million for the NextGen Precision Health Institute.
- There have been no cuts to the current State budget so far since revenues are up.
- MURA is a member of the Flagship Council, and MURA members are encouraged to join as individuals.

University Liaison-Administration. Linda Cook reiterated the president's report that in the meeting with the chancellor earlier in September, Chancellor Cartwright seemed very interested in and positive about MURA activities. The meeting with the four-campus retiree associations and President Choi is scheduled for October 30. Ms. Cook asked for help in identifying appropriate meeting rooms for MURA events.

Membership Committee. Dick Otto reported MURA membership including 91 annual, and 877 life members in good standing, for a total membership of 968. President Garrett expressed a goal of 1,000 members for the 30th anniversary year.

Special Committees and Liaisons

Audit Committee. Libby Miederhoff summarized Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. Recommendations included the following:

- All transactions in the check register should be dated.
- A balance should be struck at least at the end of a page and that balance should be carried forward to the next page.
- Bank reconciliations should be performed monthly, and there should be some notation in the register of the reconciled balance.
- Checks and deposits should be recorded on separate lines in the register to provide space for notations of the purpose of the transaction.
- The year should be recorded in the register when a new calendar year begins.
- Voided checks should have the signature line cut off and should be filed with the bank statement for that month.
- For security reasons, the username, password and pin should be removed from the outside of the Vanguard file.
- Any request for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the treasurer must be accompanied by original receipts. Both the original receipts and the president's approval must be part of the expense file, and the president should sign the check.

- In order to comply with the Board actions regarding matching gifts to the MURA Scholarship Fund, transfers should be made from the investment account to cover the amounts already matched from the operating account. To minimize the effect on the investment account, the transfers should be made quarterly over fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Alternatively, the Board could consider, with advice from the Finance Committee, whether a transfer is needed to fund the FY 2020 budget. If not, there should be additional Board action to modify the previous actions requiring transfers from the investment account for matching gifts to the MURA Endowment.
- Ideally, PayPal withdrawals should be made the day following the close of registration for an event. The PayPal report printed at the time of withdrawal should include transaction date, name, gross amount paid, fee, net, event, and balance. The treasurer should review the report for refunds since the MURA website for registration states there will be no refunds.
- Investigate whether PayPal reports and withdrawals can be scheduled to occur automatically on a specified date each month. If so, a mid-month report and withdrawal might be the most efficient and effective way of handling PayPal deposits.

Dick Otto moved to accept the audit report and approve all recommendations. Gary Smith seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. The president thanked the audit committee members and the treasurer for their work.

Newsletter. Maggie Walter reported that the next newsletter will come out in mid-November and that the committee is looking for a designer. There was a reminder that the Board had agreed at the September meeting to distribute hard copy newsletters to all Board members, and the president agreed to remind the communications committee of this.

Engagement Council. Ina Linville encouraged members to put the second Show-Me Mizzou date of April 18, 2020, on their calendars. She reported on the first Mizzou to You activity in Wheaton and plans for two more in northeast Missouri and Kansas City. Engagement week will be October 21-25 with invitation-only sessions by Stephen Covey and David Novak and a broadband session on October 24. Ms. Linville was asked to request MURA Board invitations to the sessions. Finally, CARES is creating a web portal for all things Missouri, and there is also an engagement portal under development.

United Way Campaign Committee. Linda Lorenz reported that the United Way campaign will run October 2 through November 22 and that the approach to MU contributions has moved toward encouragement to give of time, treasure and talent rather than focusing on financial goals.

Past Presidents. Ken Hutchinson reported that the past presidents have agreed to regular meetings on the day following MURA Board meetings, and that they plan to follow up on University responses to last year's COLA report.

Special Committee on Emeritus Staff Designation. Jo Turner commended committee members Art Jago, Linda Cook, and Nancy Johnson for their work and summarized the report as distributed to the Board via email. Following extensive discussion, Mary Lickliger moved that the committee be charged to continue to work out details of eligibility, seek input from the 4-campus staff advisory council, and seek input from the retiree associations for the other three campuses. There was a second, and following further discussion, Art Jago offered a friendly amendment to delete working out eligibility details. There was a second, and the friendly amendment motion passed unanimously. The amended motion directed MURA leaders to share the concept paper with the Intercampus Staff Advisory Council and retiree associations from the other campuses and to seek their input. Motion passed unanimously with the document retitled to Concept Paper: University of Missouri Staff Emeritus.

Unfinished Business - none

New Business

The president brought up the question of seeking sponsorships for MURA and/or its activities and suggested that MURA develop a policy on sponsorships. Following discussion, there was informal consensus that the president will appoint a committee to research the issue with a tentative goal of having a policy in place in time for the spring social.

Announcements

President Garrett reminded the group to attend the informational meeting on Friday, September 20.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Licklider
Secretary

DRAFT