

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

**July 18, 2018**

**Members present:** Kay Barbee, Brian Foster, Betsy Garrett, Susan Hazelwood, Ken Hutchinson, Barb Harris, Nancy Johnson, Ina Linville, Doris Littrell, Judy Maseles, Mary Anne McCollum, Dick Otto, Leslie Palmer, Margie Sable, Don Sievert, Gary Smith, Jo Turner, Maggie Walter, Rob Weagley, and Larry Windmoeller

The meeting was called to order by President Jo Turner at 2:00 p.m. Members present introduced themselves and welcomed new members

**MINUTES:** Leslie Palmer

The minutes of the MURA meeting held on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, were distributed via email. Motion to approve as distributed by Dick Otto; Gary Smith, seconded. Motion passed.

**President's Report**: Jo Turner

President Turner welcomed new and returning Board members. She reviewed the Leadership Directory ([attachment](http://mura.missourialumnispaces.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/74/2018/07/MURA-Leadership-2018-2019-Final-7-19-18.docx)) and shared that Bob Churchill submitted a letter of resignation for his Faculty-at-Large appointment (2016-2019.)  Margie Sable as chair of the Nominating committee contacted Art Jago who has agreed to be appointed to complete the term for 2018-2019. Other appointments:

* Kay Barbee – Retiree Benefits
* Tom Henderson – United Way
* Ina Linville – MU Engagement Council
* Maggie Walter and Pat Smith – newsletter editors in chief
* Barbara Schneider – Osher Lifelong Learning

Doris Littrell moved and Ken Hutchinson seconded the motion to accept the appointments. Motion passed.

Turner reported that since the last Board meeting, MURA officers have had the following meetings:

* UM System – President Choi and Vice Presidents Rapp and Fischer; reps of other campus retiree groups
* MU – Chancellor Cartwright
* Benefits - VP Marsha Fischer
* Mizzou Alumni Association – Jayson Meyer

Linda Cook, MURA’s University Liaison, arranged the meetings with President Choi and Chancellor Cartwright.

Turner asked the Board to acknowledge and thank Past-President, Margie Sable, for her excellent leadership and service in the past year.

Turner asked the Board to give some thought for another location for Board meetings. The size of the Board as well as mobility and parking issues make this worth considering.

Turner shared her goals for the coming year:

* Enhanced member service, reaching and engaging more members
* Enhanced, increased volunteer and service opportunities for members

**Treasurer's Report**: Rob Weagley

Past-Treasurer Debbie Robison prepared and submitted Cash Flows Statement for year-ended June 30, 2018. Treasurer Rob Weagley discussed and highlighted her letter/statement as follows:

MURA’s cash in the operating fund increased by $4,200 during this time frame because receipts exceeded cash disbursements by $1,935 and a transfer from the investment fund was made for $2,265.

Observations regarding the financial statements:

* Dues increased this year compared to last year by $3,617. Of this increase, $3,390 was in lifetime memberships.
* MURA events are now largely being collected online through the Alumni Spaces (AS) portal. The cost to MURA is 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 net of this fee.
* Since the reports from Alumni Spaces were nonexistent for some of the earlier deposits, when more than one event occurred within the same time period, the distribution of the income was done by use of the registration lists.
* The Board authorized a contribution by MURA to the MURA Scholarship Endowment Fund up to $10,000. This is a matching contribution based on gift donations. As of this date, $5,015 has been matched by MURA. Of this amount, $2,265 represents MURA’s match of gift contributions made through December 31, 2017 and $2,750 was given to match member donations made to the spring social fundraiser. A transfer will be made in July for the contributions made, outside of the spring social, for the period January 1 through June 30.

Debbie believes that the Association is in good financial condition. Further, the recent dues increase approved by the membership should place MURA in good financial shape for many years to come. Debbie stated it has been a privilege to serve MURA for the past two years.

Dick Otto moved to accept the reports and letter as submitted; Betsy Garrett seconded. Motion passed.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Barb Harris

An executive decision was made to forego mailing printed copies of the newsletter to MURA members who have an email address on file with MURA.   Those members who do not have an email address (approximately 200 - 230 members) will continue to receive a printed copy.  It is possible that the email address in the membership directory could be invalid or simply not used by the member; however, it is the member’s responsibility to make sure MURA has up-to-date and accurate information.  Finally, the upcoming August newsletter will be mailed to all members unless they have previously waived their printed copy (gone green) even if there is an email address for them.  In that newsletter, there will be an article outlining the new policy and emphasizing the need for accurate email addresses.  This step is being taken as a cost saving measure since the newsletter is one of the larger annual expenses each year.  The printing costs associated with newsletter publication will likely remain at the current level for the coming year (no savings on the printing costs); however, postage and mailroom handling costs will decrease significantly.  The current cost associated with printing and mailing is approximately one dollar ($1) per each newsletter.  The Fall newsletter actual costs will indicate the true amount MURA will save by reducing the number of newsletters mailed.

**KITTY DICKERSON SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:** Gary Smith

MURA’s is working to have least $100,000 in the MURA Kitty Dickerson Scholarship fund which was established as an endowment in MU Advancement. The goal is to order to award larger and/or more scholarships to dependents of MU staff who are currently employed.  The January 1, 2018, scholarship endowment fund balance was $38,661.94; the June 30 balance, $52,826.94.  This difference indicates a gain of $14,165 over the six-month period of time which includes the following:

* $2,265 MURA Board match to gift money for Fall 2017
* $2,750 MURA Spring Social registrations/donations
* $2,750 MURA Spring social/President’s reception MURA Board match
* $1,500 MU Retiree Volunteers  at the Mizzou Store in January 2018
* $4,900 Additional individual gifts to the MURA Kitty Dickerson endowment fund

The MURA Board has previously authorized up to $10,000 to match individual donations. Treasurer Robison transferred $2,265 in February 2017 and $2,750 in May 2017 for a total of $5,015 of MURA Board match to the endowment. Thus, a balance of $4,985 is available for MURA Board match. As noted above, there was $4,900 in additional gifts eligible to be matched by MURA Board funds. Since a balance of $85 would remain for the MURA match of $10,000, Doris Littrell moved that $4,985 be transferred by the MURA Board to the MURA Kitty Dickerson Scholarship Fund endowment which will bring the total balance to $57,811.94; Maggie Walter, seconded.  Motion passed.

Margie Sable moved that MURA authorize another $10,000 to match gift money donations to the Kitty Dickerson scholarship fund. It was pointed out that Tom Henderson had originally proposed a $20,000 match. Ken Hutchinson seconded the motion to authorize another $10,000 match. After discussion of feasibility as well as timing of the additional match, the motion was withdrawn. The possibility of authorizing a second match will be discussed at a future MURA Board meeting. It was suggested that the match be considered in the broader picture of raising funds for the scholarship in general.

Gary reminded the Board that MURA members will again be encouraged to volunteer at the University Bookstore/Mizzou Store with the money raised ($15/hour) going to the scholarship fund. An email from Bunny Grice is forthcoming in early August with details and scheduling dates and times. Further, the Scholarship Committee continues to work with Richard King (The Blue Note management) to arrange a benefit concert to raise funds for the MURA Kitty Dickerson Scholarship fund with Kitty’s son, Deke, the performer.

Congratulations are in order to the Kitty Dickerson Scholarship Committee for a successful fundraising campaign this past year. Everyone is proud of the progress and looking forward to the next phase.

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

There are 941 members in good standing.  Annual members paid through 2018 number 102.  Annual members paid through 2019 number 19 and there are 3 paid through 2020.  There are 817 LIFE MEMBERS.  A list of 40 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. Dick requested that Board members contact any of the people they may be acquainted with who last paid in 2017 and remind them to send in their membership dues for 2018.  Dick Otto will compose a brief recruitment email to forward to members of the Board to be used to contact people with whom Board members are acquainted regarding MURA membership.

Nancy Johnson, Phil Shocklee and Dick Otto represented MURA at the Staff Advisory Council Employee Recognition Week Arts and Craft Festival on May 22.

**Program COMMITTEE:** Betsy Garrett ([attachment](http://mura.missourialumnispaces.com/about/board/board-meeting-minutes/event-calendar-2018-2019/))

Betsy reported President Choi will be fully sponsoring the Fall Social at Providence Point on September 25, 2018, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. This is a Fall Festival theme and casual with boots and jeans welcome. There will be appetizers and drinks; the cost will be $10 per person. This is not a scholarship fund benefit.

The Breakfast Series speakers are confirmed through February, 2019; however, the kitchen at the Country Club is being refurbished and is not available in February and March. The committee has been exploring options and has decided to schedule the February and March Breakfast meetings at Peachtree Catering and Banquet Center. The price point at Peachtree is $15.00. The committee has decided to absorb the difference in price ($13/$15) during February and March.

The Fall Information Meeting is scheduled for September 29 at the Country Club of Missouri from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon with pastries and coffee provided. Confirmed presenters include Marsha Fischer and Carol Wilson, UM Human Resources; Tom Richards, Pension fund manager; Marshall Stewart, UM System Chief Engagement Officer and Tom Henderson and Mary Anne McCollum, Flagship Council. The

MU Extension communications group has agreed to livestream/record the program at no charge to

MURA so that a larger number of MURA members can participate. It will also be put on the MURA website. Questions may be submitted in advance as well as during the session itself.

The Holiday Luncheon is December 15, 2018, at Reynolds Alumni Center; the Chancellor’s Retiree Resource Fair and Luncheon is on May 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. also at Reynolds Alumni Center. The Committee is exploring the possibility of combining the Spring Social and Ray Schroeder Picnic as the Spring tends to be quite busy.

**FACULTY COUNCIL:** Don Seivert

The Faculty Council voted to request that Librarians be designated Non-Tenure Track Faculty. The Board of Curators has implemented policy with NTT’s; thus, the benefits would apply to all Librarians. The general faculty requested that the Chancellor provide an itemized accounting for the academic cuts; it is not looking as though an itemized accounting will be forthcoming.

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

**NEWSLETTER REPORT:** Maggie Walter

Maggie Walter and Pat Smith are co-editors of the MURA Newsletter. Maggie expressed thanks and appreciation for items being forwarded to her for possible inclusion in the next issue of the newsletter.  More photos from events such as the picnic, luncheon, staff recognition week and any other events are highly desirable. Please include cutline information identifying all persons in the photo. Maggie’s email is waltermr@missouri.edu.  The content for the next newsletter has been edited and sent to the designer. Aug. 6 is the target date for publication of this 12-page newsletter.  It is planned that there will be g three newsletters this year—middle of August, early to late November and early February so that it is prior to the annual business meeting in March. Maggie and Pat and other members of the communications team will be contacting Board members for content about a month ahead of each print deadline.  The most recent newsletter was published in late February.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Old Business**

Awards: Larry Windmoeller reported that the Chancellor faculty and staff award recipients for 2017 and 2018 added to plaques in Jesse Hall; the plaques are now up to date.

**New Business**

MURA Survey: Jo Turner introduced the idea of a survey of MURA members to be used to collect input to better serve MURA members. Larry Windmoeller suggested that it might be more feasible to start small with the breakfast meetings to look at the response. Art Jago has volunteered to help with the survey. Survey monkey is also being considered in trying to collect input in order to identify the need(s). For example, the people who retired unexpectedly last year might be struggling with issues and needing support services; rural hospitals are few; caregiving, etc. The Board members agreed that the survey is worth pursuing. Dick Ottok, Ina Linville, Kay Barbee and Betsy Garrett volunteered to serve on a committee with Art Jago to plan a proposed survey. Marsha Fischer, UM System Vice President, Human Resources is interested and may collaborate with MURA on this. Jo asked the committee to plan to report at the next MURA Board meeting.

Volunteer Opportunities: Leslie Palmer reported that current and on-going volunteer activities in which MURA retirees are invited to participate include: MU Bookstore Volunteer, Mizzou Move-In Day, Mizzou Athletics Ambassadors, MU Engagement Council, among others. Currently, MURA reviews information from program contacts and determines if it fits MURA policy on volunteer announcements and works with the program contact to prepare material for posting on the website, Facebook and email blasts. Jo asked Ina Linville to explore the possibility of integrating MURA volunteers into the larger Black and Gold Brigade volunteer format implemented via the Alumni Center website sign up. The website will match interests and skills with opportunities that the Alumni Association posts. This initiative calls not only for the expansion of the number of opportunities posted; but, also to revisit the branding of the Black and Gold Brigade. Ina has been in touch with Jayson Meyer at MAA and will continue to monitor the development progress and to identify ways for MURA members to make a good contribution, gain access to more opportunities, and get the MURA Association in a position to capitalize.

AROHE conference - The 2018 AROHE Conference (Re-Creating, Retirement: Connect, Serve, Celebrate) is scheduled for October 7 – 9 in Atlanta, Georgia. President Jo Turner is unable to attend and is asking for a MURA Board Member to volunteer to represent MU at the conference. Typically, the person who attends for MURA is expected to report to the Board and to prepare some kind of article for one of MURA’s newsletters.

Online Registration and Alumni Spaces: Judy Maseles reported on the MURA website and online access to register for MURA events via Alumni Spaces. Judy will use Google Analytics once a month as a tool for gathering statistics such as the use of the website (number of visitors), etc. Judy is the person who sets up and designs a space for each MURA event which allows members to register for the event with a credit card or PayPal. Last year about $18,000 was collected via Alumni Spaces; or, about 75% of MURA event registrations were handled online. Commendations are in order to Judy for lending her expertise to this worthy cause. The charge to MURA is 5% of the fee. However, there is a need to continue to monitor the Alumni Spaces service as there are functions that need to be improved that will better meet the needs of the organization. For example, registrations for multiple events in the same month must be carefully dated and there are limits on what the webmaster can control. MURA will continue to monitor the service through the Fall to determine whether to continue with Alumni Spaces.

Jo Turner expressed many thanks to Judy for a wonderful job well done and credits Margie Sable with recruiting not only Judy Maseles but also Maggie Walter and Pat Smith who are successfully facilitating the publication of MURA newsletters.

MU Museum District: Brian Foster has been appointed Chair of a committee charged with creating a museum district. This is a collaborative effort with the Boone County Historical League with the goal of keeping people attracted and related to Columbia. The Mizzou North building is to be torn down and the lot sold; the future of the museum is unknown. Brian is open to input from MURA Board members in the importance of MURA being involved in the process. Board members responded in the affirmative and is interested in how MURA might be able to interface, take action and be involved in the process. A MURA representative may need to be identified at a later date to participate on the planning committee.

Tiger Walk: Dick Otto reminded MURA Board members of the up-coming Tiger Walk on Sunday, August 19. This is a fabulous opportunity to participate in the welcoming of 4,000 Freshmen students to Mizzou.

Meeting adjourned at 3:56 PM.

Next meeting of the Board is Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 2:00-4:00 p.m., 307 B Housh Conference Room, Reynolds Alumni Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie J. Palmer, MURA Secretary

Supporting Reports and Handouts: Cash Flow Report; MURA Leadership Directory; 2018-2019 MURA Calendar; Membership report

