



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

July 13, 2022

The MU Retirees Association (MURA) Board of Directors was called to order via Zoom at xxx p.m. by MURA President Ina Linville.

Members were asked to respond to roll call with their MURA role and goal for the year. Those present included president Ina Linville; past president Ruth Tofle; president elect Ken Dean; secretary Mary Licklider; treasurer Donna Johanning; at-large members Art Jago, Judy Nolke, Donna Otto, and Frank Schmidt; committee chairs and co-chairs Betsy Garrett, Mary Anne McCollum, Dick Otto, Donna Otto, and Ted Tarkow; co-ombuds Carrie Lanham and Mark Stewart; University liaison Cecil Moore; and *ex officio* members Karma Metzgar, Debbie Robison, and Maggie Walter.

Minutes

Betsy Garrett moved and Dick Otto seconded approval of the minutes of the April meeting as provided. The motion was approved unanimously.

President's Report

The president articulated goals for the upcoming year: advocating for retirees, communicating with retirees, providing opportunities for education and socializing, contributing to the University family, and highlighting MURA service to the community.

Past president Ruth Tofle reported on activities during the fourth quarter: advocacy work related to the University's *Collected Rules and Regulations* pertaining to COLAs to retiree pensions, including the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on COLAs; and updates on MURA goals to advance MURA use of information technology, initiate partnerships, promote diverse membership growth, increase the scholarship endowment, and benefit from member survey responses. She noted that the COLA work has yielded ongoing communications with UM personnel and a request for a meeting with a smaller group of UM personnel to be scheduled for August. A deeper dive into the UM pension plans is developing into a white paper to be shared with the MURA past presidents at their meeting on July 14.

Regarding MURA goals, she reported a notable success working with UM personnel to allow communication with retirees whose primary emails are not UM accounts. President Linville thanked Dr. Tofle for all her work, particularly as president for the last two years.

The Board was provided with the current calendar of MURA events. Board members were encouraged to mark Board meetings on their personal calendars.

President Ina Linville presented the Board with proposed committee chairs for 2022-23. New chairs included Dick Otto and Donna Otto, Awards Committee; Mark Stewart, Ombuds – Faculty; Ted Tarkow, Scholarship Committee; Debbie Robison, Audit Committee; and Gary

Smith and Ruth Tofle, Co-Historians. Mary Licklider moved and Ruth Tofle seconded a motion to approve the president's appointments. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Donna Johanning reported a cash balance on June 30, 2022, of \$8,548.57 and an investment account balance of \$102,192.05. She noted that \$3,000 of sponsorship money for 2022-23 was received in 2021-22 and will be moved to 2022-23. Ted Tarkow asked about the UM President's promise of a donation to the scholarship fund. The treasurer explained that the scholarship donation won't flow through the MURA budget, and Ruth Tofle explained that the commitment to the Retiree of the Year award has not yet been made. Judy Nolke moved and Dick Otto seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Standing Committees

Finance Committee. Chair Donna Johanning presented the Committee's proposed budget for 2022-23. The Finance Committee relied upon historical data since 2021-22 was so unusual, took out the fall information meeting since that has moved to webinar format, added participation in the AROHE conference, and included sponsorships for the first time. Betsy Garrett moved and Judy Nolke seconded approval of the budget. The motion passed unanimously.

Program and Education Committees. Program Committee Chair Ken Dean reported on planning for fall events, including breakfast speakers, the fall town hall, a fall social, holiday social, locations for fall events, and potential responses in the event of a spike in COVID infections. Committee members are exploring options for breakfast locations. Committee members will meet in early fall to begin planning for spring events.

Membership Committee. Chair Jo Turner provided a report of 903 members in good standing as of July 1, including 45 annual and 860 life members. Through June 30, 2022, MURA offered current and inactive annual members discounted life membership, and nine individuals took advantage of this offer. The Membership Committee chair plans to convene an advisory committee to discuss membership options, fees, and recruitment strategies.

University Liaison – Administration. Liaison Cecil Moore reported that the Spring Town Hall was held May 18 with a focus on UM retirement plans. Approximately 300 households tuned in to the town hall. A video recording, retirement plan profile and answers to questions addressed during the event can be found on the MURA webpage.

Representatives of the four campus retiree associations met virtually on June 13, 2022. Following campus updates, the meeting focused on continuing discussions regarding the University's pension fund and retirement programs.

Dates for the fall town hall and the regular meeting of President Choi and the four campus retiree associations remain to be scheduled. Dr. Moore noted that Ashley Rhode has been very helpful, Mary Licklider took minutes during the 4-campus meeting when he was not available, and Ruth Tofle presided over the meeting.

Kitty Dickerson Scholarship Committee. Chair Ted Tarkow reported the Committee will meet August 1.

Government Affairs Committee. Chair Mary Anne McCollum noted that we will know more of the political landscape following the August primary, and she will provide a report after that. The candidate forum at the October MURA breakfast will include all local district candidates for the State legislature and perhaps also the race for Boone County presiding commissioner. Showmeboone.com will tell individuals which district the individual is in.

Special Committees and Liaisons

Faculty Council Representative. Art Jago reported that since the April 13, 2022, MURA Board Meeting, no issues were addressed at Faculty Council meetings of particular and significance relevance to MURA members. His summaries of Faculty Council meetings are available to Board members on the Faculty Council Representative channel of the MURA Teams site and also via his email distribution list.

Staff Council Representative. Judy Nolke reported that recent Staff Council speakers have included the Director of Records and Information Management, the Assistant Vice President and Controller, and the Director of Accessibility and ADA. Much of the Council's effort during the spring centered around the events and logistics for Staff Recognition Week May 16-20. Activities during that week included a 5K walk/run, a botanic scavenger hunt, an arts and crafts showcase, a recognition ceremony for outstanding and notable years-of-service staff members and a special luncheon.

United Way Representative. Linda Lorenz provided a report that this year's United Way Kickoff will be held on September 27th. Invitations will be forthcoming. Our goal for this year is \$435,000. The Give 5 Program begins July 22, 2022. The program allows retirees to visit 20 nonprofits to see where their talents and interests align with local nonprofits. There has been strong interest in the program, so United Way will repeat the classes in the Fall to allow more retirees the opportunity to participate.

Ad Hoc Committee on COLA Policies. Chair Ken Dean reported that the Committee is attempting to get more definitive information about the plan and the security of the plan, but is not certain that they will receive any more definitive information than has already been received.

Announcements

President Linville reminded members to see the MURA calendar for upcoming events.

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Licklider
Secretary