

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2024

Meeting held via Zoom

The MU Retirees Association (MURA) Board of Directors was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by MURA President Jim Scott. Members present included president Jim Scott; past president Ken Dean; president-elect Mary Leuci; secretary Suzette Heiman, and treasurer Brian Sanders; at-large members Janie Harmon and Randy Diamond; committee chairs and co-chairs Debbie Allen, Betsy Garrett, Barbara Harris, Tom Henderson, Carrie Lanham and Mark Stewart; ex officio members Mary Licklider, Mary Anne McCollum, Dee Montgomery, Debbie Robison and Ruth Tofle.

### Minutes

Mark Stewart moved and Tom Henderson seconded approval of the minutes of the July 9, 2024, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

### President's Report

President Jim Scott shared the following items:

- He has met with numerous committees to learn more about their work and plans.
- Central Bank and Trust has donated \$4,000 again this year in sponsorship.
- The Board officers recently met with Chancellor Mun Choi to thank him for the University's support, share the results of the membership survey and highlight the many ways MURA benefits Mizzou. Dr. Choi identified additional ways the University can help MURA such as through the use of AV equipment, computers and meeting spaces with accessible parking. He also committed an additional \$5,000 to MURA for the current year.
- Some retirees have noticed that their email address is no longer showing up in the Active Directory search. Those who discover they are not listed should contact the DoIT Help Desk and ask to have their address restored as searchable. For reference it is suggested they refer to the closed SR 1757653. In addition, the Ombuds Committee will contact MU IT for additional information about email problems.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Brian Sanders reported a cash balance on September 30, 2024, of \$18,412.99 and an investment account balance of \$116,797.90. Ken Dean moved and Mary Leuci seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

### Standing Committees

Governmental Affairs. Chair Mary Anne McCollum said the candidates' forum was successful, with about 100 in attendance. Of note was the summary of the ballot issues by political analyst David Leuthold. These will be shared on the MURA website and Facebook page.

Membership Committee. Per report from Chair Jo Turner, as of October 3, 2024, MURA has a total of 871 members in good standing. This includes 30 ANNUAL members and 841 LIFE members. Members are encouraged to promote MURA and its many membership benefits to include former University of Missouri employees, as well as retirees, pre-retirees, and their partners/spouses. Membership is open to persons age 55 or older who hold or have held UM appointments from any of the four University of Missouri campuses, including but not limited to adjunct faculty/staff, grant-funded positions, Extension, MU Healthcare, UM System and USDA personnel. Associate (non-voting) membership is also available to persons who have retired from another college or university.

Ombuds Committee. Co-chair Mark Stewart noted a price increase for retiree parking passes. More information about parking passes is available at [muparking@missouri.edu](mailto:muparking@missouri.edu). Some retirees have noticed that their email address is no longer showing up in the Active Directory search. Those who discover they are not listed should contact the DoIT Help Desk and ask to have their address restored as searchable. For reference it is suggested they refer to the closed SR 1757653. In addition, the Ombuds Committee will visit with appropriate areas on campus to look into the issue.

Program and Education Committee. Chair Mary Leuci shared a recap of the fall 2024 programs and the committee's meeting schedule through June 2025. Members are encouraged to visit the website [mura-missouri.com](http://mura-missouri.com) for a listing of events and other activities. She also asked officers, board members, past presidents and other MURA leaders to contribute to the items for the Holiday Social raffle baskets. The Board provided input to the committee to reconsider offering salmon as an item on the menu for the holiday lunch and explore possibility of differential pricing for menu item selection. Mary will work Judy Maseles on the possibility of this in the PayPal system with online registration.

Retirement, Health & Other Benefits (TRAC). Chair Betsy Garrett reported that a virtual town hall meeting is scheduled to allow for discussion and Q&A of changes to Medicare Advantage 2025. TRAC meets regularly to discuss a wide range of topics that affect benefits for staff, faculty and retirees.

Scholarship Committee. Per a report from Chair Ted Tarkow, close to 40 MURA volunteers served 80-plus hours at the Mizzou Store, raising about \$1,225 for the Dickerson Scholarship Fund. The fall Shakespeare's fundraising event is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 13, and the flyer was shared via the agenda. The committee is working on a database to keep track of former recipients and is working with Financial Aid to select new recipients.

### **Special Committees and Liaisons**

Audit Committee. Chair Debbie Robison shared the audit report for the year ended June 30, 2024. No problems or issues were found. There was discussion about implementing internal controls for the Vanguard account to safeguard the funds. Treasurer Brian Sanders will look into ways this can be accomplished.

United Way Representative. Dee Montgomery noted significant progress and MURA members' contributions towards the United Way campaign goal for MU of \$500,000. The MU Donation Day is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29. MURA members can select items to help various agencies and drop off them off at the corner of Rollins and Missouri on that day.

### **Old Business**

Past president Ken Dean shared some findings from the MURA member survey, which sought input about costs, programs, parking, timing of events and related items. Overall, the results were similar to the previous survey, with respondents generally happy with their University retirement. Additional analysis of the findings will be shared in the future.

### **New Business**

President Jim Scott led a discussion about sponsorships, including the development of a policy to guide external and internal support. The Board determined more discussion about the purpose, value and other benefits of sponsorships is needed to guide the development of a sponsorship plan. President Scott will lead this effort.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Suzette Heiman, secretary