

EIU ANNUITANT ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NEAL WELCOME CENTER
JANUARY 24, 2019

Members Present: John Ryan, Margaret Messer, Jeffrey Lynch, Nancy Dole, Gail Mason, Richard Wandling, and Ronald Wohlstein

Visitors: John Best

I. Call to Order

President John Ryan called the meeting to order at 9:00.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the November 29, 2018 Board meeting were approved as published (Wohlstein/Lynch)

III. Treasurer's Report

Margaret Messer reported a checkbook balance on December 31, 2018 of \$5,970.77. The EIUAA 2018 Annual Financial Report has been completed and copies were distributed and discussed. Audit Committee members, John Best and John Flynn, will be asked to review and approve the report prior to Margaret mailing it to SUAA in Springfield. (Lynch/Mason)

IV. Committee Reports

a. Communications and Newsletter Committee

John Ryan gave the report in Wendy Long's absence. An Event Section has been added to the Members Section. The Listserv is being updated. An email will be sent out to the association asking for articles for the Spring Newsletter.

b. Events Committee

Gail has been in communication with Martin's IGA and the United Methodist church. There was discussion regarding payment to the church. A payment of \$150 had previously been approved. A check for \$200 is needed for the Martin's IGA deposit. Entertainment will be Sweet Adelines. The committee will take care of items needed in Gail's absence. She will be out until April 17.

c. Legislative Committee

There is now unified government in Illinois. With only 44 Republicans in the House and 19 Republicans in the Senate, many political commentators are speculating whether the IL GOP is relevant in the Legislature. There are more Democrats in the House alone than the GOP has in the entire Legislature. Leadership is sending positive signals that it can work together with Dems on agenda items of common interest. Tim Schneider, ILGOP chair and a Rauner appointee, continues a scorched earth policy against Dems. Charlie Weaver, perhaps the most experienced political commentator in Springfield, suggests that people pay less attention to GOP staffers and more to the House and Senate GOP leadership regarding the state's agenda.

Governor Pritzker's agenda is beginning to take shape. Below is an outline to date in no particular priority:

- Gov. Pritzker has pledged a balanced budget in the first year. Obviously, pledges made at inaugurals must be taken with a very large sack of salt. How will "balanced" be defined? More in less out? The deficit can't be eliminated in one year, nor can the pension hole. Add to this that the U.S.

trade war has more and more economists warning of a recession, which Illinois historically has not weathered very well.

- Gov. Pritzker signed on to the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bi-partisan coalition of governors who have pledged to uphold the environmental protections of the Paris Climate Agreement. He is the 18th governor to sign.
- Gov. Pritzker promoted a progressive income tax during the campaign. He has a tight window of opportunity, i.e., 2020, to make that happen. This will be politically controversial.
- Gov. Pritzker signed new gun seller legislation. Gun sellers must now be licensed by the state as well as the feds, whose oversight has been stretched. It adds cameras to all sales and a 72-hour waiting period.
- Gov. Pritzker signed what is now the most progressive abortion legislation in the nation.
- The IBHE is seeking an 18% increase in funding for universities, the only government entity being funded in real not inflationary dollars lower than 30 years ago.

d. Membership Committee

John Best reported in Mary Anne Hanner's absence. The December 2018 SUAA report shows EIUAA with 707 members. There are a few discrepancies between our report and SUAA. Two members have passed away: Dr Catherine Smith and Dr. Hal Malehorn. The committee plans to continue recruiting at various events at EIU. A calendar of recruitment events will be created. Articles will be submitted to the EIU Newsletter. The lapsed member list will be shared with the Board and Membership Committee to encourage them to re-join. A script will be provided for phone and email contact. Cheryl Gilbert, Julia Abell and Kathy Reed are potential new committee members.

e. Scholarship Committee

An email has been sent to the list serve to remind members to encourage their children/grandchildren to apply for the 2019 scholarship. The deadline to apply is March 15, 2019. The application process is entirely on-line through the Foundation on-line system.

V. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

VI. New Business

There was discussion of EIUAA sponsoring a Speaker Series. Possible speakers were mentioned. We will need a venue and create press releases once speakers are found. Kent Redfield and Charlie Weaver were mentioned as possible speakers. The Spring Newsletter will need articles. We need presenters for Chapter meetings on July 11 and October 3. We should ask for annuitant requests in the newsletter. Nancy will be on vacation during the next two meetings; Jeff Lynch agreed to take notes on February 28 and Margaret Messer agreed to do so on March 7. Gail announced that the Volunteer Income Tax Preparation will begin February 4 at Life Span.

The meeting adjourned at 10:24(Lynch/Messer).

Respectfully,

Nancy Dole
Secretary

2019 Dates to Remember:

Thursday, March 7, 2019, 9 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, April 26, 2019	Annual Luncheon
Thursday, May 30, 2019, 9 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2019 8:30 a.m. Social Time - 9 a.m. Meeting	Chapter Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 5, 2019, 9 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019 8:30 a.m. Social Time - 9 a.m. Meeting	Chapter Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019, 9 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting