

EIU Annuitants Association Board Meeting Minutes

Neal Welcome Center

March 6, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Carpenter, Mac Corley, Scott Crawford, Barb Funk, Vicki Hampton, Ellen Keiter, Frank McCormick, Jill Nilsen, Doug Sloat, Julie Sterling.

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT: Hank Davis

I. **Call to Order:** After distributing a bundle of handouts pertinent to Old and New Business, President Nilsen called the meeting to order at 9:05

II. **Approval of February 13, 2014 Chapter Meeting Minutes:**

ACTION: The February 13, 2014 Chapter Meeting minutes were approved with the following corrections: (1) on p. 4, section **III.E.**, line 2, Judy Young's name was added to the list of members of the Communications/Newsletter Committee; (2) on p. 5, section **IV.B.**, "President Sterling" was corrected to read "President **Nilsen**" (F. McCormick/M. Corley).

III. **Treasurer's Report:** Barb Funk called attention to the following figures in her "Treasurer's Report for February 28, 2014": (1) under February Expenses, the sum of **\$789.39** paid to the EIU Foundation -- an addition to earnings to increase the Annuitants Scholarship to \$1,000; (2) **\$1,582.85** -- our balance as of February 28, 2014. Noting that "These are the expensive months," Barb added that she will need to pay our caterer, Martin's IGA in Effingham, the week before our April 3 luncheon. In addition, she will need to pay \$300 for our three luncheon musicians and another \$200 for a gratuity for the caterers.

ACTION: The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously (D. Carpenter/M. Corley).

IV. **Committee Reports:**

A. **Membership Report:** Ellen Keiter reported that we currently have **722** EIUA members, 5 of whom joined in February. Three new members signed up by using the membership form in the new Membership brochure. Ellen and her committee members will meet with Linda Holloway in Human Resources shortly

to determine in what ways that office might be helpful to EIUAA. Following a suggestion from Vicki Hampton, the committee has drafted a message to be sent electronically to all current EIU employees urging them to join EIUAA. Ellen indicated that she will store her many Membership brochures in the NWC basement. Board members are encouraged to use the brochures as needed. Jill suggested taking them to meetings to distribute to potential recruits, adding that increasing our membership to **800** would both increase our income and give us one additional vote at the annual SUAA Conference. Vicki Hampton suggested that the Membership Committee draft a message to be sent to current EIUAA members asking them to help us reach the 800 goal by recruiting new members.

- B. Events Committee Report:** Julie Sterling reported that all luncheon preparations are in place. **March 20** is the deadline for returning luncheon reservation forms. Julie has arranged to borrow decorations from Ernie Secreast, an EIUAA member in Alumni services. EIUAA will pay for lunches for our guests President Perry, Stacia Lynch, the three musicians, and the EIUAA Scholarship winner and her parents. A box will be supplied at the luncheon for contributions to SUAA's Legal Fund. Written encouragements to donate will also be placed on luncheon tables. Mac Corley and Scott Crawford volunteered to assist in the LifeSpan Center's parking area on the day of the luncheon.
- C. Communications Committee Report:** Vicki Hampton reported as follows: (1) the listserv is now the only official e-mail source of information from EIUAA; (2) the spring newsletter was disseminated last month; the next fall issue will be sent out in September; (3) in future newsletters Vicki would like to include a "What's Going On" section in which members report interesting recent activities; (4) she is presently working with IT to devise a means of including archived documents in a drop down list on our website; (5) Vicki would also like to include a link to the Membership Committee's new brochure; (6) a "Confidentiality Statement" will be posted at the bottom of future EIUAA e-mails. Jill suggested sending several e-mails each month directing members to visit our website.
- D. Scholarship Committee Report:** Jill Nilsen reported that money for the EIUAA Scholarship has been transferred to the winner's account.
- E. Legislative Committee Report:** Jill Nilsen reported that the Legislative Committee and Julie Sterling met with Reggie Phillips on February 27 and with Darrell Cox on March 3 (both of them Republican candidates for an Illinois House

seat). Jill prepared and distributed a summary of the candidates' comments, and Board members shared their responses to the comments.

- F. Nominations Committee Report:** Vicki Hampton reported that Ellen Keiter, Dan Carpenter, and Frank McCormick will step down from the board at the end of 2014. Barb Funk's term will continue through 2015 but Barb will step down as Treasurer after this year. John Flynn and Hank Davis will join the Board in 2015. Hank has agreed to serve as Treasurer beginning in 2015.

V. Old Business:

- A. SUAA Lawsuit and Fundraising Updates:** Jill Nilsen reported that SUAA's lawsuit will be filed in Champaign County. (In a subsequent communication we learned that the suit was filed later in the day on March 6.) Jill disseminated SUAA's recent compilation of contributions to its legal fund by Illinois state colleges and universities. The tally indicates that contributions totaling **\$13,120.00** were made by **101** individual EIU contributors. **\$2,500.00** of that amount was contributed by EIUAA.
- B. Survivor Benefits:** Jill reported that an overseer of EIU survivor benefits is needed to replace Alan Baharlou. When she asked Doug Sloat if he would be willing to assume that responsibility after he has had an opportunity to review the information concerning survivor benefits posted on the EIUAA website, Doug agreed to give the matter consideration. Julie Sterling suggested that two recent EIU survivors serve on a survivors committee together with a Board member.

VI. New Business:

- A. Appointment of Audit Committee:** Ellen Keiter and Mac Corley agreed to serve on the Audit Committee, with Doug Sloat serving as a backup. Ellen and Mac will perform their audit in March.
- B. July 10 Chapter Meeting – Program Ideas:** Following discussion, a suggestion made by Scott Crawford was agreed to. Jill Owen, Kinesiology Department chair, will be asked if one or more members of her department would be willing to make a June 10 presentation, in a room in the Lantz building, concerning the role of exercise in maintaining seniors' physical and mental fitness.

- C. Meeting Dates 2015:** After discussion, the following 2015 EIUAA meeting dates were approved:

2015 Chapter Meetings

January 29

To be announced – Annual Luncheon date

July 9

October 8

2015 Board Meetings

March 5

June 11

September 10

December 10

- D. Reimbursement for Travel – Chapter Policy:** Following discussion it was agreed that the Board’s travel reimbursement policy will remain an informal one.
- E. Chapter Dues 2015:** Following discussion the Board agreed to resume consideration of 2015 Chapter dues on June 26. To be considered at that time: If we raise our dues, how much should we raise them – and how will we implement the increase? Julie Sterling wondered about the possibility of our ceasing in the future to give SUAA an annual donation of \$10 per deceased member.
- F. Chapter Liability Coverage:** Following a brief discussion, the Board agreed that “we can’t afford” Chapter liability coverage.
- G. SUAA Proposed Constitution:** Jill Nilsen reported that the proposed revision of the SUAA Constitution will be the first item to be voted on at SUAA’s annual conference in Springfield, June 17 and 18. She reviewed several areas of potential concern in the draft and urged Board members to study the entire draft with care so that we can vote, or question portions of the draft, appropriately at the June conference. A special meeting of the Board will be held to discuss the draft. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for **May 8**.
- H. Relationship with Other Area Chapters:** There was brief, inconclusive discussion of the feasibility of strengthening EIUAA’s relationship with other area chapters;

e.g., Rend Lake, Danville, and Lake Land.

- I. **Other:** At the conclusion of the meeting President Nilsen called Board members' attention to two presentations which she made in February to the EIU Board and to the Foundation Board, the text of which she distributed in documents entitled **"Presentation to the EIU Board of Trustees, February 28, 2014"** and **"Presentation to the EIU F[oundation] Board[,] February 20, 2014."**
- VII. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank McCormick, Secretary