

**EIU Annuitants Association Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 23, 2023, Neal Welcome Center**

Present: Peter Andrews, Lisa Dallas, Cathy Englekes, Steve Lane, Gloria Leitschuh, Amy Lynch, Billie Rawlings, Kathy Reed, Nora Pat Small, Rich Wandling

Absent: Wendy Long, Marita Metzke

Guests: Daniel Douglas, Bailey Young

1. Call to Order

President Rich Wandling called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Minutes of January 26, 2023 Board Meeting – Rawlings moved and Lane seconded a motion to approve. Unanimously approved.

3. Treasurer's Report – The report shows a beginning balance for February of \$4026.41. In addition to the income and expenses for February, the account earned \$.03 in interest. The ending balance for February on 2/28/23 was \$4026.44. Small moved and Lynch seconded a motion to approved. Unanimously approved.

4. Committee Reports

a. Membership (including postcard in lieu of brochure)—Wendy Long is in Arizona. At the end of February, the membership count had decreased by 4 from January, due to 2 deceased members and 2 members in the grace period. (Members in grace period have 60 days to renew membership.)

Discussion regarding the use of a postcard format for information included sharing the Races for All Paces postcard as an example of the amount of information that may be imparted on a postcard. Also discussed was using a larger size than the sample postcard and omitting space for addressing.

When Wendy returns from Arizona, the plan is to move forward with the project.

b. Communications & Newsletter (including website review; newsletter; Facebook group)—Wendy Long will send email to the listserv requesting information for newsletters; she is also requesting the president's report, committee reports, and any speaker information. Regarding the website review, Rich Wandling checked this

morning and indicated ideas have been received from two board members. He will send an email reminder to those that have not yet responded. If any board member would like to be added as an administrator to the Facebook group, please contact Rich Wandling.

c. Legislative (including SUAA efforts related to TRAIL)--Rich Wandling

Wandling reported Bailey Young would like to join the committee. He has a long history of being politically active. Wandling and Bailey discussed contacting Chapin Rose and Chris Miller to request meetings.

SUAA & SURS will be holding the annual legislative reception and asked that we contact our legislators. Wandling has will put on his agenda to contact Chapin Rose and State Rep. Miller.

Medicare Advantage and TRAIL – Interest at the SUAA level on the topic of Medicare Advantage and TRAIL is continuing. Linda Brookhart periodically sends news about funding at the national level. There was a zoom session involving AFSCME at the national level.

d. Scholarship – Small reported there are 5 applicants for the award. In the past \$1000 has been awarded.

EIUAA has received two thank-yous from the foundation for the efforts we're making towards student scholarship. There is over \$42,000 in the fund.

The committee is in the application review process and will be meeting next week to determine the award.

The scholarship component of the website needs updates to the instructions for application for the scholarship.

e. Events (including early fall social in lieu of spring luncheon; speaker series)—

There will not be a spring luncheon, discussion has revolved around an event in the fall and possible locations for a social event.

We need to determine whether we will have a speaker for the July chapter meeting.

The attendance at the February chapter meeting was very thin. To encourage attendance, the speakers should probably have a relationship with EIU. Wandling will contact Jay Gattrell to determine his availability for the July chapter meeting.

f. Nominations—Rich Wandling - no nominations needed at this point

5. Reviewing/Updating Committee Memberships

Board members should review the listing on the website for accuracy and notify Rich Wandling of any changes. Committee members do not need to be board members. If you know of someone who would like to serve on a committee, notify Wandling.

Membership committee likely needs additional members. Mary Anne Hanner and John Best have helped in the past.

Communications/Newsletter – Rich Wandling and Lisa Dallas help the committee.

Legislative – Bailey Young and Rich Wandling would welcome more members to the Legislative Committee.

Events – Leitschuh, Dallas and Reed will serve on the committee.

Scholarship committee - Small reported the committee is well-staffed.

6. Honoraria Policy proposal (for speakers)

The committee met at the food court and reviewed ideas.

A document showing current EIUAA policies, reformatted policies and proposed honorarium payments policy was distributed to the board members.

Changes suggested to the proposed policy are to change the wording to “awarded” rather than “eligible for”.

Rawlings moved to approve the proposed policy as amended, Lynch seconded. Motion was approved.

7. Region 3 SUAA Directors survey on interest in online webinars/Zoom programs

An email from Linda Guinn and Randy Dunn indicated there was interest in a webinar on windfall provision. It will be conducted on April 6<sup>th</sup> at noon, members should receive an email with information.

Guinn and Dunn have offered to meet with our board. Dunn is a retired Southern Illinois University president and Guinn retired from Kankakee Community College and is a former SUAA President. Board members indicated interest in meeting at a future date.

8. EIUAA member emails-related request

Steve Brantley is attempting to collect alternative email addresses for retired UPI members. Some retirees are still on the listserv for UPI. The EIUAA Board executive committee discussed the issue and has determined there is no simple way to separate UPI member emails from all EIUAA members. The consensus is to inform Steve he may submit a request to place a posting on the EIUAA Facebook page asking for updated email addresses.

Discussion included EIUAA’s Facebook policies (on the Facebook page). Rich Wandling will review the Facebook policies and determine if they need modifications.

9. Proposed statement on EIU contract negotiations

Bailey Young distributed a paper outlining the negotiation status between UPI and EIU. The document was created by a member of UPI, who is neither a member of the negotiating team nor a member of the UPI leadership.

Bailey Young also distributed a paragraph he requested EIUAA approve. After discussion of the request the recommendation is for the paragraph to be posted on EIUAA's listserv and Facebook page. Nora Pat Small stated "I move we disseminate the statement to our membership via listserv and post on Facebook as something adopted by the EIUAA Board". Lynch seconded, the motion passed.

10. Daniel Douglas, Program Coordinator, EIU Academy of Lifelong Learning

Mr. Douglas is the new Program Coordinator for the EIU Academy of Lifelong Learning, replacing Marita Metzke upon her retirement.

He hopes to host a cookout type of event to kick off a rebirth of the academy.

He has been listening and taking many notes, including trying to understand how the Medicare advantage program relates to annuitants.

Most programming they do is free and open to the public. He is attempting to obtain an OLLI grant that would allow more money to potentially hire instructors. He would like to replicate what U of I is doing with their program which has been funded by an OLLI/OSHA grant.

He is trying to have the academy act as an outreach arm of the university, making it more a part of the community.

Plans include a Lego camp for this summer.

Activities/events are mainly publicized in program guides and Facebook.

He plans to consult with the Foundation regarding donations/memberships possibilities.

Discussion included the possibility of EIUAA doing joint programming with the academy for the community.

11. Other Business

No other business.

12. Adjournment

Peter Andrews made the motion to adjourn. Steve Lane seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Reed – EIUAA Secretary