

EIU Annuitants Association Board Meeting Minutes
Neal Welcome Center
June 2, 2016

Board Members Present: John Flynn, Vicki Hampton, Mary Anne Hanner, Jeffrey Lynch, Margaret Messer, Jill Nilsen, Julie Sterling, Robert Whittenbarger

Guests Present: John Best, Gail Mason, Jone Zieren

- I. **Call to Order:** President Hanner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- II. **Approval of the Minutes:** The minutes of 1/28 and 3/29 were approved as published (Lynch/Hampton).
- III. **Amendments to the Agenda:** There were no amendments put forth.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** President Hanner presented the report on behalf of Treasurer Davis. The current balance in the checking account is \$3606.90. At the last meeting, the Board approved contributions to the EIU Foundation (\$1275), to SUAAction (\$1000), and to SUAA Legal Fund (\$1000). The total cost of the luncheon was \$1400: \$1030 to Martin's IGA, \$936 for food and delivery and \$94 tip; \$200 for the EIU speech team paid to the EIUF Communication Studies Gift Account; \$70 to the Life Span Center for using the space.
- V. **Committee Reports:** The following committee reports were presented:
 - A. Communications Committee, Vicki Hampton, chair – The committee is preparing for the fall newsletter. Committee chairs will be asked to submit their reports by mid-September. Some of the changes to the content of the newsletter have been the addition of news of interest from our members, guest columns, and shortened obituaries.

Vicki encouraged the Board to send other ideas regarding content to her.

- B. Events Committee, Julie Sterling, chair – The annual spring luncheon went well. The food was good and the entertainment spectacular. The date for next year’s luncheon needs to be identified and the venue reserved. Set up for the July 7 chapter meeting will be on July 6, 1:00 at the Neal Welcome Center. Board members are needed to help set up tables and chairs.
- C. Legislative Committee, Jill Nilsen, chair - The Illinois Legislative Spring session ended at midnight on May 31 without passage of a budget for FY16 or FY17. Any proposed legislation discussed at this point will need a super majority in both chambers to be passed and sent to the Governor. The Speaker has already indicated that he will convene the House next Wednesday in overtime session.
SB 2048, an FY17 appropriation bill, was passed by the House last week and sent to the Senate where it was defeated. Both the Senate and the Governor expressed concern that the spending bill reflected \$7.5 billion dollars of expenses over anticipated revenue. The Governor’s Office of Management and Budget is recommending that the legislature adopt a “bridge” budget for both FY16 and FY17. Their proposal does not provide additional funding for higher education in FY16 and only stopgap funding in FY17. There is also speculation that no budget will be approved until after the elections in November. Although the higher education crisis is significant, the loudest outcry from the voters in Illinois will happen if school does not open in the Fall.
- D. Membership Committee, Mary Anne Hanner, chair - The Membership Committee has spent a great deal of time trying to rectify EIUAA’s membership numbers with those on file at SUAA. Our current membership number is 720. Letters have been sent to lapsed members encouraging them to renew their membership. The committee has been actively recruiting current EIU employees. They met with Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and Civil Service Council.

Board members were provided a list of the spring, 2016 retirees and were asked to contact any one on the list with whom they personally knew and ask them to join.

- E. Nominations Committee, Margaret Messer, chair – Lora Green submitted a letter of resignation from the Board. The Board voted, reluctantly, to accept her resignation (Lynch/Hampton). At the end of 2016, Mary Anne will complete her first three-year term but has accepted a second three-year term. Julie and Scott will complete their six years of service and potential replacement board members are being sought. Board members were encouraged to send names to Margaret. According to the Bylaws, the Board can vote to fill Lora's vacant position. The individual filling her slot will complete her three term with the potential to renew for a second three years. It was determined that this could be done via an email vote. Jeff is willing to serve as President-elect-beginning January 2017.
- F. Scholarship Committee, Margaret Messer, chair – Mary Anne extended a big thank you to Margaret for spearheading the revision of the scholarship criteria and seeking out applicants. A big thank you also to Vicki for challenging the SUAA membership to increase the corpus of the scholarship by \$5000 by making the first donation. Donations are coming in! The scholarship plaque has been updated.

VI. Old Business

Vicki, Jeff, and Margaret will attend the SUAA Annual Meeting and will serve as the official delegates from EIUAA.

VII. New Business

The Board discussed the proposed revisions to the SUAA Bylaws and determined that the EIUAA chapter would support the changes.

After much discussion, the Board decided not to launch the SUAA Campaign "Higher Education Creates Jobs" in Charleston. With all of the

lost jobs in our community as a result of the budget impasse, it was determined that the timing of that message could be perceived as insensitive. It was decided to purchase 50 "I love EIU" lawn signs and make them available to our membership at the July 7 meeting.

Board members were encouraged to send programming ideas for 2017 to Margaret.

VIII. Adjournment

President Hanner adjourned the meeting at 10:25.

Committees met immediately after the Board meeting.

Dates to remember:

July 7	Chapter Meeting - NWC
September 8	Board of Directors meeting - NWC
October 6	Chapter Meeting - NWC
December 8	Board of Directors Meeting - NWC