

EIU Annuitants Association Board Meeting Minutes

Neal Welcome Center

December 11, 2014

(CURRENT) BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Carpenter, Mac Corley, Scott Crawford, Barb Funk, Vicki Hampton, Mary Anne Hanner, Bob Jorstad, Ellen Keiter, Frank McCormick, Jill Nilsen, Julie Sterling.

NEW (2015) BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Hank Davis, Dian Ensign, John Flynn

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Audrey Edwards, John Kilgore, Jone Zieren.

I. **Call to Order:** After calling the meeting to order at 9:05, President Nilsen suggested that committee members discuss committee business privately with one another for approximately fifteen minutes, after which the Board would commence its official business. Official business commenced at ca. 9:24.

II. **Approval of September 11, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes and October 9, 2014 Chapter Meeting Minutes:**

ACTION 1: The Board meeting minutes of September 11, 2014 were approved with the following correction: in the heading on p. 1, "Chapter Meeting" was corrected to read "Board Meeting" (H. Davis/B. Funk)

ACTION 2: The Chapter meeting minutes of October 9, 2014 were approved with the following correction: on p. 2, item **IV.B.**, the clause in the **ACTION** line that reads "Secretary unable to identify the maker of the motion" was corrected to read "**Hank Davis**" (E. Keiter/D. Carpenter).

III. **Treasurer's Report:** Barb Funk reported that our current balance is **\$3,315.21**. In response to a question, Barb added that our balance at this time last year was "close to \$6,000," but that this has been a "big spending year," the principal new expenditures being the Board's contribution to SUAA's Legal Fund and the payment of a room fee for several Chapter meetings held at the LifeSpan Center.

IV. Committee Reports:

A. Membership: Ellen Keiter reported as follows:

1. We currently have **742 members** – a figure that includes several past members who have not yet renewed their membership. SUAA's records indicate that as of the end of November we had **719** members.
2. A number of members whose dues were up to date sent Ellen dues checks in response to the membership forms included in the most recent (Fall) newsletter. Ellen has returned the redundant checks to senders whose dues are deducted from their monthly annuities. For those who pay by check, membership was extended for an additional year.
3. To reduce the number of redundant dues checks submitted by members in the future, Ellen suggested that separate versions of the newsletter be sent out when the Fall 2015 newsletter is promulgated -- with dues payment forms included **only** in the version mailed to **non-members**. In response to this suggestion, Vicki Hampton noted that mailing out two versions of the Fall newsletter would entail substantial additional postage costs as well as preparation time. Following additional discussion, President Nilsen suggested that the Membership Committee meet with the Communication Committee to discuss the matter.
4. Ellen's records indicate a total of **36** deceased annuitants in 2014 (to date); **11** of the deceased were EIUAA members.
5. The opportunity (via a raffle) for recruiters of new members to win a \$25 gift certificate to What's Cookin' will be offered again at the February 26 Chapter meeting.
6. The transition to a new Membership Committee chair has begun. Mary Anne Hanner will chair the committee in 2015.

B. Events: Julie Sterling reported as follows:

1. Martin's IGA will be the caterer for our April 24, 2015 Luncheon at the LifeSpan Center. Following discussion of the menu options, the Board

agreed by consensus to substitute mashed potatoes for twice-baked potatoes. Following additional discussion of IGA Martin's charges for delivery of our requested menu items, the Board took the following action:

ACTION: The Board agreed to increase the per-person cost for this year's luncheon from \$8.50 to \$9.50 (M. A. Hanner/M. Corley).

2. Richard Rossi and his choral group have agreed to provide our Luncheon entertainment.

ACTION: To express our thanks to our luncheon performers the Board agreed to donate \$200 to the EIU Music Department (E. Keiter/S. Crawford).

3. Following discussion of the cost of providing refreshments at Chapter meetings, the Board agreed by consensus that at our February 26 Chapter meeting, (a) coffee, tea, and pastries will be ordered from Panther Catering; and (b) a **donation cup** will be placed at the refreshment table. Users will be encouraged to make a contribution.

C. Communications: Vicki Hampton reported:

1. The next member newsletter will be taken to the printer around March 4-6. It is expected that the newsletter will be mailed to members by Spring Break.
2. When Jill and Vicki met with Alan Baharlou in November, they received Alan's member list and have used it as the basis for creation of a non-member listserv which they have recently augmented.
3. The cost of mailing the Fall 2014 newsletter to both members and non-members was approximately \$1,000. President Nilsen suggested that the Communication Committee and the Membership Committee meet to discuss "what to do" with the fall newsletter and report their recommendation at the September Board meeting. (See item **IV.A.3** above above for context.)

D. Scholarship: Bob Jorstad reported that he has received no applications for the EIUAA scholarship, for which the deadline was December 1. Discussion ensued,

after which the Board took the following action:

ACTION: “Take the money that would have been needed to fund the scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 and use it to fund the corpus for next year[’s scholarship award]” (V. Hampton/J. Sterling).

- E. Legislative:** Jill Nilsen thanked the Legislative Committee (Hank Davis, Sue Kaufman, Jeff Lynch, and Gail Mason) for their contributions to the work of the committee in 2014. She circulated a letter she had sent to Reggie Phillips, newly elected member of the state House of Representatives, congratulating him on his electoral victory and requesting an opportunity to meet with him on behalf of EIUAA. Concerning the subsequent meeting she and members of her committee had with Representative Phillips, Hank Davis reported that he is “very supportive of Eastern.” Jill added that she has “not yet heard back” from Dale Righter, whom she has attempted to contact by phone.
 - F. Nominating:** Vicki reported that her committee needs an additional member. She asked the Board for suggestions. Following discussion, the Board recommended that Margaret Messer be asked if she would be willing to serve.
- V. Old Business:**
- A. Review of October 9 Chapter Meeting:** The Board agreed that the October 9 presentations by Kathy Reed and Cay Kolling on the e-mail conversion were useful to attendees. Vicki Hampton reported that annuitants’ transition to the Office 365 platform has gone relatively smoothly.
 - B. Presidential Search Advisory Committee:** Jill Nilsen reported that the last off-campus interview was conducted last Monday and that names of finalists will be announced in the first week of the Spring semester. She encouraged Board members to participate in the campus interviews of finalists.
 - C. Review of Meeting Dates for 2015:** Jill Nilsen distributed a handout prepared by Julie Sterling in which the following meeting dates were listed for 2015:

Chapter Meetings: February 26, April 24 (luncheon at LifeSpan Center), July 9, October 8.

Board Meetings: March 5, June 4, September 10, December 10.

VI. New Business:

A. February 26, 2015 Chapter Meeting: Vicki Hampton announced that the February 26 Chapter meeting will feature presentations on the National Caregiving Program and the Supportive Living Family (an alternative to nursing home care). Guest speakers from Community Care Systems (delivering services to many area counties) and Heritage Woods Assisted Living of Charleston, Illinois will make the presentations. Vicki encouraged annuitants to “bring your caregiver with you if you have one.”

B. SUAA By-Laws Revision: Jill Nilsen reported that she will meet with the SUAA By-Laws Committee on December 17 to discuss a revised draft of SUAA’s By-Laws.

C. Donations in Memory of Deceased Members: Following discussion of the uses to which EIUAA’s annual donations in memory of deceased members are put, the Board approved the following:

ACTION: The Board agreed to stipulate that our annual donation to the SUAA Foundation in the amount of \$10 per deceased member be directed instead to the EIU Foundation, bringing the donation from \$10 to \$20 per deceased member – that sum to be added in its entirety to the EIUAA Scholarship corpus (M.A. Hanner/D. Carpenter).

D. Other:

1. Frank McCormick asked if we have received from SUAA an accounting of the uses to which SUAA has put EIUAA’s donation to SUAA’s Legal Fund. Jill indicated that to date we have received no such accounting.

2. President Nilsen expressed her thanks for the services rendered to the Association by the three Board members whose terms expire at the end of 2014 -- Dan Carpenter, Ellen Keiter, and Frank McCormick. She also expressed thanks to continuing Board member Barb Funk for her service as Treasurer, expressed thanks to Julie Sterling, who will continue as a Board member in 2015 but will step down from her role as Past President, and

congratulated and thanked the three persons who will be joining the Board in 2015 – Hank Davis (who will serve as Treasurer), Dian Ensign (who will become Secretary), and John Flynn.

3. On behalf of the entire Board, Vicki Hampton, who will succeed Jill as President in 2015, expressed thanks to Jill for her superb leadership of the Association in 2014.

VII. **Adjournment:** President Nilsen adjourned the meeting at ca. 10:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank McCormick, Secretary