

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting December 3, 2020 Minutes
Held via Zoom**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on December 3, 2020 at 10:00 am by President Dan Sheffer.

II. Welcome & Announcements:

Members attending via Zoom or phone: Jo Ann Collier, Ali Hajjafar, John Heminger, Klein, Ed Lasher, Tom Nichols, Neal Raber, Dan Sheffer, Linda Sugarman, Mel Vye, Martha Vye, Diane Vukovich, Tom Vukovich, Richard Steiner, Tim Lillie, Bob Gandee, and Carl Lieberman

Absent with notice: Cathy Edwards, Laura Moss-Spitler

III. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the October 22, 2020 Board meeting were approved as written.

The minutes of the semi-annual general membership meeting held October 7, 2020 were approved as written.

IV. Treasurer's Report. John Heminger reported:

October 2020

UA Account income: dues \$72.00

UA Account expenses: T. Vukovich (speaker pens) \$120.00

Petty Cash income: \$0.00

Petty Cash expenses: \$0.00

| | UA Account | Petty Cash | Totals |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Initial balance | \$10,878.78 | \$79.40 | \$10,958.18 |
| Income | \$72.00 | \$0.00 | \$72.00 |
| Expenses | \$120.00 | \$0.00 | \$120.00 |
| Final balance | \$10,830.78 | \$79.40 | \$10,910.18 |
| | | | |
| October 2019 | | | |
| Final balance | \$10,173.80 | \$237.49 | \$10,411.29 |

The report was approved subject to audit.

V. Corresponding Secretary. Linda Sugarman reported one sympathy card had been sent.

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VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs: Tom & Diane Vukovich reported that an article describing Frank Thomas's November presentation has been submitted to Martha Vye for possible inclusion in the next newsletter. A virtual presentation by the U of A Department of Music will be presented December 16, 2020. The program dates and topics planned for Spring 2021 are:

February 17, 2021 Dr. Paul Weinstein – The Swinging (back & forth)
Generations: The Pendulum Theory of American Political History

March 17, 2021 Mr. Victor Fleischer – Goodyear Tire and Rubber
Company: A Photographic History

April 21, 2021 Dr. Harvey Sterns – The City of Akron – Is it an Age-
Friendly City?

B. Membership: Mel Vye reported new 68 new members, 228 active members, 296 on the books and a scholarship donation of \$20.

C. Political Action. Bob Gandee had no report. Dan Sheffer was the Zoom host for the last meeting of OCHER and said he would circulate the report presented by Gerald Newsom of STRS.

D. Benefits. Linda Sugarman reported Retiree Dependent benefits for non-bargaining members end on December 31, 2020. We hope all of those members have obtained insurance to supplement their original Medicare for January 1, 2021. Those who have chosen HMO's are reminded to be careful about staying in network.

At this point Dan Sheffer made a presentation about benefits.

Dan obtained the following information from an AAUP negotiator with permission from the AAUP attorney. The University was at that time intending to end Retiree Dependent health benefits for the bargaining unit members on December 31, 2020. Dan sent an email to members of AUAR letting them know this information. Dan does not have a separate list of the 95 bargaining unit members, so he has to send this information to the whole AUAR email list.

E. Faculty Senate. Ali Hajjafar reported:

Faculty Senate Meeting November 5, 2020

Chair Saliga called the meeting to order. She mentioned a few items that would be covered during the meeting.

Executive Committee reported that they met four times since the last regular Senate meeting including the meeting with Provost Wiencek. Topics discussed included: Brightspace grading, the co-requisite model, consequences of reorganization, CR/NC, unit name changes, searches for administrators, work

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load, program assessment and program review, program reinstatement, reorganization, Spring 2021 models, creation of the childcare work group, and appointment of faculty members to the OAA restructuring work group. They also reported that President Miller has chosen not to meet with the FSEC. President Miller in his remarks explained the status of the University and COVID. He said we've managed to keep the COVID level below or at the county levels. No real serious sickness from the disease but we've had some with bad symptoms. He said he was concerned about the level of county and it caused a bit of surge in campus and he believed the University should raise the COVID level to 2C. He said most activities would continue but more restrictions in residence halls. He said they are a little concerned with Thanksgiving. Some 800 students are on campus through the holidays and we're prepared to take care of them. He said students were asking to be tested before going home. All classes will be virtual after the holiday, but campus will stay open. Testing continues to evolve and the University is working on that and talks at the state level on testing costs and buying in bulk. He said we have some tests that we got through state that we are using and they are better tests. He said commencement for Winter and Spring depends on conditions at the time. Somewhat face to face mainly with students in a controlled environment. Last Spring's graduates will be included as well. He said it is not clear what will happen next semester. We may start in hybrid form. Hoping we'll get some vaccines and move into a better model. He said we were able to attend a live homecoming with a crowning and very spaced out. Regarding his absence at FSEC meetings, he brought up two reasons. First, EC is an advisory group to the Provost. Second, some members of EC are AAUP officers as well. He thinks that FSEC is envisioned to be separate from CBA. He said the B.O.T. and I have to put ourselves in a situation where we are in a conflict of interest, we should work toward a situation where we can work with the faculty on faculty academic issues and the Union on Union issues and keep these two issues separate. Provost Weincek in his remark mentioned that as things come across his desk he would ask Faculty Senate and University Council for advice. He talked about Ohio Exchange database that gives access to faculty scholarships and business. He mentioned the departure of the Dean of Wayne College and he is working on that. On discussions about revised Spring semester, he is waiting to receive input from FS and UC before making that announcement. On moving up on planning activities, he said he is looking to get it up and running for next year and a half, put in place a two year process as well to run concurrently. He added he is consulting with FSEC regarding closures and potential reopening of programs that were closed. He said Dean searches are ongoing, especially Dean of BCAS going along well. At the end, he turned over his time to Cher Hendricks who has been looking at OAA reorganization. She gave a power point presentation on that.

Before committee reports, the list of graduates for Fall 2020 was approved.

APC brought three action items on the floor. The first action was regarding the creation of a link containing University policies for students that faculty may choose to refer to on their syllabi. The second action was regarding counting the last attempt of a repeated course for University requirements. The third action was regarding creation of criteria for a part-time student to be included on the Dean's List. Curriculum review committee brought 29 course proposals and 6 program proposals for approval.

Computing and Communication Technology Committee presented a written report.

AAUP reported that they are negotiating a new contract.

Graduate Council representative reported that at the Council the composition of the Council based on types and number of graduate students and types and number of graduate faculty and programs are discussed. They want to have a diverse representation. They are looking at standing committees as well.

GSG representative reported on a survey for students to measure mental health of graduate students, having workshop for graduate students, working on changes to Spring semester for welfare of students, and funding for traveling to conferences.

USG representative reported that they have been providing input on Spring semester and other questions brought to them. They are looking to support students in quarantine and socializing while encouraging mask wearing.

At the end, the Chair announced that she needs three volunteers or nominations to serve on childcare work group.

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F. University & Community Service/Website. Dan reported the site is up to date.

G. Scholarship. Tim Lillie reported he has talked with present members of the scholarship committee including Bill Beyer, June Burton, Velma Pomrenke and previous chair Carl Lieberman. The consideration of students for scholarships occurs in the spring semester. Tim also obtained the financial status of the scholarship accounts administered by the University of Akron Foundation. Financial reports are generated twice a year. The most recent data are from the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2020. The next report will be released the end of December. June data are presented below:

The University of Akron Foundation
Income Statement
Association of University of Akron Retirees' Scholarship

7/01/2019- 06/30/2020

P20-821-054 - The Association of University of Akron Retirees' Scholarship

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$119,649.39 |
| | |
| Income Statement | |
| Revenues | |
| Endowment Earnings-Dividend | \$2,153.13 |
| Endowment Earnings-Interest | \$20.95 |
| Gain/Loss | (\$1,254.54) |
| Unrealized Gain/Loss on Invest | (\$2,233.66) |
| Gifts | \$7,056.00 |
| Total Revenues | \$5,741.88 |
| | |
| Expenses | |
| Management Fee Expense | \$690.66 |
| Administrative Fee Expense | \$1,178.38 |
| Dist to UA-Income-Student Aid | \$5,162.72 |
| Total Expenses | \$7,031.76 |
| | |
| Net Surplus/Deficit | (\$1,289.88) |
| | |
| Ending Balance | \$118,359.51 |

H. Newsletter. Editor Martha Vye reported that the interviewees for the next newsletter will be Linda and Mike Sugarman. Martha forwards articles and photographs as she receives them to Tony Fawver, newsletter publisher.

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VII. Old Business. None. Dan Sheffer reminded members that there is a vacancy on the board; a candidate is needed for the member-at-large position for 2020/2021 – 2021/2022.

VIII. New Business. None.

Tom Vukovich displayed his copy of Hail We Akron which had arrived in the mail. It is still available at the bookstore with a discount.

IX. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

**Respectfully submitted:
JoAnn Collier, Recording Secretary**

Next meeting will be January 28, 2021 via Zoom at 10:00am

- Meeting Schedule for 2020-21: August 27, 2020; September 24, 2020; October 22, 2020; December 3, 2020; January 28, 2021; February 25, 2021; March 25, 2021; April 22, 2021; May 20, 2021; June 24, 2021 (Photos of the 2021-2022 board will be taken at the June 24, 2021 meeting).