

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting August 25, 2022 Minutes
Held in person and Zoom**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on August 25, 2022 by President Rita Klein at 10:35 am.

II. Welcome & Announcements:

Members attending: Jo Ann Collier, Cathy Edwards, Bob Gandee, Ali Hajjifar, John Heminger, Rita Klein, Tom Nichols, Dan Sheffer, Laura Spitler, Harvey Sterns (phone), Linda Sugarman, Mary Verstraete, Martha Vye, Mel Vye, Mary Schadle, Tom Vukovich

Absent with notice: Diane Vukovich, Connie Heldenfels, Carl Leiberman, Richard Steiner.

III. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the June 23, 2022 Executive Board meeting were corrected as follows: In the Political Action report given by Dan Sheffer, Greg Nichols' name was misspelled. The board approved the minutes as corrected.

III. Treasurer's Report. John Heminger reported:

June 2022

UA Account income: luncheon proceeds \$30.00
 UA Account expenses: Print Services \$62.92
 Petty Cash income: Lobster & Suds raffle \$55.00
 Petty Cash expenses: \$0.00

	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial balance	\$8,310.91	\$277.04	\$8,587.95
Income	\$30.00	\$55.00	\$85.00
Expenses	\$62.92	\$0.00	\$62.92
Final balance	\$8,277.99	\$332.04	\$8,610.03
Final Balance			
June 2021	\$8,112.30	\$79.40	\$8,191.70

The report was approved subject to audit.

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V. Corresponding Secretary. Linda Sugarman sent condolences to George Makar's family.

VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs:Chair Tom Vukovich reported that the dates, speakers, and topics for the Fall luncheon speakers series have been planned and confirmed for inclusion in the newsletter. Tom announced that the Lobster & Suds Event will be on May 19, 2023. He asked for suggestions for the December/holiday meeting. Suggestions for speakers are always welcome.

B. Membership: Mel Vye reported that 24 members have paid for Life Memberships and 73 members have paid for the Fiscal Year 2023. Discussion ensued regarding what to do with member who retire at times other than the end of an academic year/semester. Kelly McIntire will be asked to send us the names of retirees at any time

C. Political Action. Bob Gandee provided the board with a handout for the Legislation Update – STRS “Broken Beyond repair?” You Decide. Dan Sheffer reported that the OCHER Board composed a letter to the Ohio State Teachers Retirement System (OSTRS) and that letter was circulated to the AUAR Board. OCHER is requesting better communication to STRS members. A Zoom meeting ensued with Bill Neville of OSTRS and Marla Bump of STRS to discuss how they can help all retirement systems communicate better with their members. OCHER requested that regional meeting occur with speakers from STRS, SERS, etc.

D. Benefits. Linda Sugarman had no report.

E. Faculty Senate. Ali Hajjifar and Harvey Sterns. No report - Faculty Senate will resume meetings in September 5, 2022.

F. University & Community Service/Website. Dan Sheffer will post the meeting minutes and requests that all Board members review the website and recommend any changes that they would like to see. It was noted that the list of Retirees did not seem to be up-to-date and Dan said he would ask HR for an update.

G. Scholarship. Mary Schadle, Scholarship Committee Chair, reported that three students, were awarded \$2000 each for the 2022-2023 academic year.

#3135955	Paul Calaway	Mechanical Engineering
#4202691	Emma Leway	Early Childhood Education
#2729494	Anita James-Brown	Computer Information Systems – Cybersecurity

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Jennifer Redford will apply the awards to each student's account. Mary Schadle will notify each student and will invite them to attend one of the AUAR Luncheons.

A discussion ensued regarding how many scholarships have been/should be awarded each year. Three were awarded in 2021 and 2020 whereas two were awarded in 2019, 2018, 2017, and 2016. It was recommended that no amount less than \$2000 be awarded to an individual.

Any direct donations go directly into our scholarship account. A spreadsheet that documents direct donations from members should be requested from Development.

One additional person is needed for the scholarship committee.

It was noted that the scholarship application is May 1st and the Scholarship committee should wait until after that to review applications.

A suggestion was made to have a specific fundraiser to increase the money in the scholarship account. Suggestions should be brought to the next meeting.

As the Life Members are now paid for life, it was suggested that a specific effort be made to make ensure we do not lose touch with them.

H. Newsletter. Martha Vye, Newsletter Editor, confirmed the dates for the lunch meetings in 2022-2023. She reported that the newsletter is ready to go out in early September.

VII. Old Business. It was noted the Matt Williams in IT is providing consistently good communications regarding the email migration. He stated that everything is going smoothly.

VIII. New Business. Kelly McIntire is taking over for Allie Schwartz as the AUAR Support Coordinator in HR.

IX. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.

**Respectfully submitted:
Mary Verstraete, Recording Secretary**

**The next meeting of the 2022-2023 year is scheduled for September 22,
2022 at 10:00 am in-person at the Infocision Board Room**