

STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION
UIUC Chapter Executive Committee
Clark-Lindsey, Simon Dining Room
<http://www.suaa-ui.org>
Minutes for June 11, 2014

Attending: Mary Beastall, Paul Dollins, Gary Engelgau, Barbara Hartman, Jane Loeb, Mark Netter, Terri Palumbo, Bob Rich, Steve Rugg, Agnes San Miguel, Helen Satterthwaite, Rick Schoell, Ginny Waaler, Ron Webbink, Bill Williamson

I. Call to Order. In President Ruprecht's absence, Vice President Terri Palumbo called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

II. Approval of minutes for May 14, 2014. Bob Rich moved, Rick Schoell seconded, and the minutes were approved.

III. Review of schedule of meetings:

A. Next Exec Committee Meetings 2014: August 13, September 10, October 8.

B. SUAA Directors' meeting: June 17-18, 2014, Springfield, discussed later.

C. Big Ten Retiree's Association meeting: August 8-10; U of Minnesota hosting, <http://www1.umn.edu/umra/index.php#BTNAROHE>.

D. Employee Expo: October 22, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Illini Union Rooms A,B,C.

IV. President's Report

Vice President Palumbo noted that Tom Conry will represent the chapter at the Big Ten meeting in St. Paul. (Travel expenses will need to be reimbursed.)

V. Treasurer's Report:

Ron Webbink reported on May's receipts and disbursements, noting that one CD matures in July at .2%, and will be rolled over. Acceptance was moved (Williamson), seconded (Rich), and passed.

NOTE: When purchasing anything where an invoice is sent to the UIUC-SUAA Chapter, please have it sent to Ron Webbink at his on-campus address so that the bill may be paid promptly.

VI. Action/Discussion Items

A. Nomination of 2014-15 Chapter Officers. Mary Beastall (nominating committee chair) reported for the committee that the current officers (Ruprecht, Palumbo, Loeb) were willing to serve again. This slate was accepted.

B. Formal recognition of meritorious service of Gerald Brighton and Gary Engelgau. Terri Palumbo offered the committee's formal recognition of the quality and importance of services rendered by Gerald Brighton as long-term treasurer and Gary Engelgau as Newsletter editor and developer of the chapter website.

C. State Directors' Meeting, June 17, 18: Terri Palumbo reported that all seven directors (Rugg, Waaler, Williamson, Netter, Schoell, Beastall, Rich) have been certified and can attend the meeting, and that the votes will probably be close on the revisions to the organization's Constitution and Bylaws. It was reiterated that directors are free to vote as they judge best.

D. Update on PA98-599 and SUAA lawsuit. Steve Rugg and Rick Schoell reported that the SUAA website currently had up-to-date information on these issues.

VII. Reporting Items

A. Membership. Barbara Hartman reported that membership was back to 2037 at the end of May; this includes 12 new members, and 22 lost, nine of whom died.

B. Legislative Committee. Rick Schoell commented that the results of the gubernatorial election could put pension issues up in the air.

C. Communications/Newsletter. Discussed with E (Newsletter) below.

D. Fall Meeting. Ginny Waaler indicated that the I Hotel is on hold for October 12 and 19. A two hour seminar on pension reform nationally is the projected program. Bob Rich and Steve Rugg will work on getting speakers, to include someone from the UI administration on how UI has worked on these problems, and the effects on recruitment and retention. Rich Schoell will help to get coverage on pension actions in other states

E. Newsletter. Gary Engelgau reminded the group that the newsletter process starts nine weeks before the meeting, so it will need to begin in earnest with the August meeting, at which he will not be present. He reported that Ron Webbink is set up to send the monthly payment to the Webmaster. He (Engelgau) will continue to feed materials to the website, though eventually this function will need to be transferred to a local person. The SUAA banner and handouts for meetings and extra copies of the latest newsletter were transferred to Rick Schoell, who will also check on whether the updated position description for the newsletter editor is on the website. Engelgau indicated he will transfer envelopes and stationary to Bill Williamson, who will see that it gets stored in the storeroom. Gary also reminded the secretary that he needs to receive each meeting's approved minutes for posting on the website.

F. Benefits. Mary Beastall reported that the SURs website has good summaries of what the pension legislation means for individuals in the various retirement system "Tiers". She will write something up about this, along with a link, for the newsletter. Bill Williamson reported that the Foundation may start offering help to chapters that need to help members who are in financial trouble.

VIII. New Business. Bill Williamson suggested that a future agenda return to the issue that Terry Ruprecht has raised concerning actions we could take that might raise awareness of SUAA among university administrators and others. Ron Webbink suggested we discuss making another contribution to the SUAA legal defense fund, which sparked considerable discussion about fundraising at the state level. There was support for putting the URGENT (so-labelled) need for contributions to the fund on the first page of the newsletter, perhaps replacing the President's letter with this appeal. Gary Engelgau noted that the fall newsletter will be going to all retirees, not just SUAA members, and that Terry Ruprecht is following up on the extent to which the campus will cover the costs for the additional printing and mailing, since they are required for the campus Charitable Fund drive.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 13, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.