

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
General Member Meeting October 16, 2024Minutes
Held in-person at Quaker Square**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on October 16, 2024byPresident Harvey Sterns.

II. Welcome & Announcements:

President Harvey Sterns welcomed all those members attending and asked them to sign the sign-in sheet.

Attending: Harvey Sterns, Dan Sheffer, Rita Klein, Tom Vukovich, Diane Vukovich, Richard Milford, Tom Nichols, Richard Steiner, Georgia Ritchie, Cheryl Sadler, Robert Gandee, Leslie Bain, Mary Verstraete, Laurel Winters, Bill Jordan, Doug Hausknecht, George Haritos, David Perry, Ali Hajjifar, Susan Hall

III. Treasurer's Report: Dan Sheffer reported that our account balance at the end of September was \$13,534.04. He reminded the members that some of the dues reflect the fact that Life Members' dues are spread out over several years.

IV. Corresponding Secretary. Harvey Sterns thanked Linda Sugarman for her continuing work reaching out to our members when they are ill or their families when they have passed.

V. Committee Reports.

A. Programs:Tom and Diane Vukovich reported that we have three main events each year, in addition to the monthly luncheon meetings; Soup & Chili, AUAR Road Trip, and Lobster & Suds.

B. Membership: Mel Vye reported that we have 122 paid members and 52 Life Members.

C. Political Action: Bob Gandee reported that our retirement system is approximately 100 years old. There are now more active retirees than active teachers, so more money is going out than coming in. A group of "reformers" have taken over the ORTA Board and have been focused on COLA. The Ohio Attorney General, Dave Yost, currently investigating fiduciary responsibility, including the Chair of STRS.

D. Benefits:Linda Sugarman reported,via e-mail,that several members of the AUAR Board, including the President, have worked hard with parking to ensure that those retired before 2023 are entitled to free parking privileges until 2027.

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E. Faculty Senate: Doug Hausknecht and Harvey Sterns are the AUAR representatives to the UA Faculty Senate and minutes from each meeting may be found on the AUAR website.

F. University & Community Service/Website: Dan Sheffer encouraged all members to check out the AUAR website, www.uakron.edu/AUAR. All meeting minutes and a schedule of all events are posted there.

G. Scholarship: Interim Chair Rita Klein reported that we award 3 \$200 scholarship each year and thanked members for their contributions to our scholarship fund.

H. Newsletter:Martha Vye reported that everyone should have received the Fall newsletter and reminded everyone that it can also be found on the AUAR website..

VII. Old Business.
None

VIII. New Business.

Harvey Sterns thanked everyone for their generous donations to the UA Campus Cupboard.

IX. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 am.

Respectfully Submitted: Mary C. Verstraete, Recording Secretary