

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting October 24, 2024 Minutes
Held in person and Zoom**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on October 24, 2024 by President Harvey Sterns at 10:03 am.

II. Welcome & Announcements:

Members attending: Harvey Sterns, Mary Verstraete (Zoom), Kathy DuBose, Robert Gandee, Ali Hajjafar, Richard Milford, Mel Vye, Martha Vye, Tom Vukovich, Diane Vukovich, Rita Klein, Dan Sheffer, George Haritos (Zoom), Doug Hausknecht, Tom Nichols, Bob Huff

Absent: Linda Sugarman, Richard Steiner, Carl Leiberman

III. Approval of Minutes: Due to some last minute changes, the approval of the minutes is postponed until the next meeting.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Dan Sheffer submitted the September Report and noted that we saved a good deal of money on the newsletter by limiting distribution.

Diane Vukovich moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Kathy DuBose seconded the motion. The motion was Approved.

September 2024

UA Account income: Membership dues \$ 90.00
 Luncheon proceeds \$289.00

UA Account expenses: Aramark Catering \$453.79
 Newsletter \$672.65

	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial Balance	\$13964.80	\$141.68	\$14106.48
Income	\$379.00	\$175.00	\$554.00
Expenses	\$1126.44	\$0.00	\$1126.44
Final Balance	\$13217.36	\$316.68	\$13534.04*
Final Balance			
Sept. 2023	\$12304.04	\$160.38	\$12464.42*

* These include dues payments for future years.

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V. Corresponding Secretary. Linda Sugarman emailed her report report.

A get well card was sent to Neil Raber after his hip replacement surgery. A condolence card was sent to the family of Irv Brandel.

Linda will not be sending any more get well cards to hospitals, they are always returned to the sender. The same is true for rehab places, unless we know the recipient will be there for a very long time.

VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs:Diane Vukovich reported that reservations for the Soup & Chili dinner are coming in, mostly via e-mail. We have three people bringing soup and three bringing chili.

Tom Vukovich reported that we had a decent turnout at the October lunch, however the food wasn't up to par. November's speaker will discuss the implications from the results of the election.

The Board received thanks for their donations to the UA Food Pantry.

B. Membership:Mel Vye reported that we have 128 paid members. We have 66 individuals whose membership expired last year who have not renewed and the Department of Development will contact them via mail.

Mel also reported that Emily is still not responsive to e-mails. He also encouraged all to reach out to more retirees to get them involved, especially the recently retired. Ali Hajjafar suggested that HR provide new retirees one of our brochures during their exit interview. It was confirmed that retirees from Wayne College go through the same retirement procedure as those on the Main campus.

Dan will send out a list of retirees for everyone to review so they can reach out to those they know.

C. Political Action: Bob Gandee had no report. Dan Sheffer reported that the STRS Board is working with an actuary to review the investments. They will move ahead with a 13th check this year. The individual amounts will depend on the retiree's years of service and the number of years they have been retired.

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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.

E. Faculty Senate: Doug Hausknecht presented his comments on the September 5th meeting which are attached to these minutes.

F. University & Community Service/Website: Dan Sheffer had no report.

G. Scholarship: Interim Chair Rita Klein reported that she finally received the 3 names for our 2024-2025 scholarship recipients. However, one of the recipients received our scholarship last year (and never replied to our request for lunch) and this is in violation of our scholarship requirements.

A discussion ensued on how to correct this in the future. The new process doesn't allow us to review applicants and we must rely on the Scholarship Committee who makes all scholarship decisions. The Board feels that, due to the limited number of people in the financial aid, the process for our scholarship, as well as others, is not being followed. This needs to be fixed. It was suggested that we invite Kim Cole to speak to the Board about this.

Rita indicated that we will not rescind the scholarship for this one student and all three will be invited to the December luncheon. She will send a detailed note to the scholarship team to inform them of the mistakes and our concern for the future.

Harvey thanked Rita for her hard work with these issues.

H. Newsletter: Martha Vyereported that she is just getting started on the next newsletter and will provide deadlines at the next meeting.

VII. Old Business.

Harvey Sterns indicated that he will call a meeting of the Bylaws Review Committee once Carl is able to attend and Dan returns.

VIII. New Business.

Harvey reminded the Board that the next Board meeting will be on December 12th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

IX. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

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Respectfully Submitted: Mary C. Verstraete, Recording Secretary

The next meeting of the 2023-2024 year is scheduled for December 5, 2024 at 10:00 am in the Infocision Board Room.

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NOTES FROM FACULTY SENATE 3 OCTOBER 2024

- Chair (Budd) remarks: Reviewed a meeting/town hall with President Nemer and Senators. Much discussion around Vision 2030 and budgets. Invitation to join planning sessions.
- President Nemer remarks. Focus on Browns partnership. Evolved from College of Business relationship. In addition to the internships, courses are being proposed to capitalize on agreement. Under way is a research study on Sports and Civility.
- Provost Wiencek remarks. Net tuition revenue up \$3 million. Applications and admissions were up 10% New students up 2.9%. New campus wide course evaluations have gone live.
- Curriculum proposal system was revised and had some hiccoughs.
- Invited to library to check out displays. For those using OhioLink, search system has changed.
- Announced Day Care and scholarships for it that have been in the news.