

**MINUTES OF January 09, 2024
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

Board Members Present: Kay Faris, Maria Hesse, Jeffrey Bush, Rojann Alpers, Partha Dasgupta, Will Stasi, Carl Cross, Don Dotts, Barry McNeill, Bev Buddee, Terrie Ekin, Helene Ossipov, and Tara Roesler

Board Members Absent: Kathy Palmanteer, Jo Ellen Alberhasky,

Ex-Officio Members Present: Mark Lussier, Tim Desch, Kendra Burton

Committee Chairs Present: Pat Schneider, Don Doerres, Connie McNeill, Jan Shore, Liz Badalamenti, Mary White

Executive Staff Present:

Guests Present:

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board president Faris called the meeting to order at 10:01 am. Kay introduced two new agenda items, liability update and the Annual Meeting date: April 17th.

II. INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME TO GUESTS

There were no guests present for this meeting.

III. ADOPTION OF TODAY'S AGENDA

A motion was made by Maria and seconded by Barry to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Motion carried.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF November 10th, 2023 BOARD MEETING

Barry, Connie and Kay made suggestion to correct typos and phrasing of the minutes. Carl made a motion to approve the minutes with modifications. Jeff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

V. FINANCIAL REPORT/TREASURER'S REPORT – Terrie Ekin/Barry McNeill

Barry stated that the Financial Report for December was attached to Agenda. Nothing much to comment. Scholarship endowment is at \$105,000. Money from ASU is in transit.

VI. EX-OFFICIO REPORTS (5 minutes or less, please)

- ASU Alumni Association – Tim Desch

Tim submitted a written summary of the Alumni Associations activities. There were 8 home games. Main signature event is Founders Day and will be held in March, the venue may be the Omni Hotel.

- Emeritus College Liaison – Mark Lussier
Mark commented that the Emeritus College is halfway through the planned programming. The seminars have been really good. ASURA members are always welcome to attend. Barry commented that the events are posted on the website as well as mentioned in E-News. Mark commented that the Lecture series and the Symposium are finally active after 4 or 5 years. Mark would like to send out an open invitation to all of ASURA membership, to the Emeritus college events.
- Human Resources – Lynne Soller
N/A
- University Club Liaison – Tara Roesler
Tara reported the University Club had its annual holiday party, with over 100 attending. The club is actively soliciting new members. For \$125 per year, parking is a big benefit.
- University Liaison – Kendra Burton
Kendra reported that Governor Hobbs presented the State of the State address and mentioned ASU's new medical school. We expect some support from Gov. Hobbs in the state budget. ASU Health has requested \$50 million. Kendra has distributed a 1-page PDF summary of the new medical initiatives. We are working on growing Edson Nursing college to fulfill nursing shortages. Strategic partnerships with Health related organizations are in progress, to provide upskilling opportunities for healthcare professionals. Legislative sessions have started; the ASU team will be busy tracking bills.
- University Senate – Greg Stone
N/A
- University Staff Council – Shawn Banzhaf
N/A

VII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS** (*5 minutes or less please*)

- Community Outreach Committee – Subcommittee Reports
 - Adopt-A-Family – Ginny Sylvester
 - Scholarship Committee – Jan Shore
The committee is working on deciding the selection process and the meeting schedules. And the end of February the committee will review the scholarship selection process, the scholarship application deadline is March 1st. The current scholarship recipient, Bea Ahbeck, will attend the annual meeting.
 - Video History Project – Don Doerres
Don reported that our primary videographer, Roger Carter is ill. The committee will try to work on the recording interviews without Roger.

There are a lot of interview candidates, but nothing much is happening right now.

Carl reported that the video history project depends on his work with metadata. The KEEP system is still not in great shape although about 800 issues have been resolved. The situation is still challenging.

- Events Committee & Subcommittee Reports
 - Events Committee Coordination – Trudy Perez
N/A
 - Luncheons & Special Events – Mary Stevens
N/A
 - Seminars – Pat Schneider
The first seminar is by Tara Brown; the topic is what to do after retirement. 35 people are registered, 8 are from NAU. Five people are signed up for the in-person part of this seminar. Feb and March seminars are from Area Agency on Aging. AROHE is having a 3-part seminar and Pat will attend and provide a report for Prime Times.
 - Pre-Retirement Seminars – Trudy Perez, Liz Badalamenti
N/A
 - Travel – John Brock
Tara announced the two new events at the Silver Star Theater. They are Elvis and Yacht Rock. There is plenty of space. The Costa Rica trip is in March. A tour of the film school at ASU is completed, it was a fantastic experience. A second tour is being arranged. A trip to the Albuquerque Balloon festival is planned as well as a trip to Italy.
- Finance Committee – Barry
 - Finance committee met with Jerry Snyder and reviewed the expenses for the last year. The expenses are in line with the budget and records match the Foundation's records. This report is required by the by-laws and should be done in November, but there was a delay this year. Given the state of the budget it would be good to add \$5,000 to the scholarship endowment.
 - Barry made a motion on behalf of the finance committee to modify the budget to move \$5,000 from Operations to the Scholarship endowment. Maria seconded and motion carried.
 - Kay announced there is a request for ASURA to pay \$45 to transport books from a faculty member's office to the ASURA office. The book sale proceeds are expected to be less than that. Carl made a motion that we do not set a precedence of paying for book moving costs. Terrie seconded and motion carried.
- Government Liaison Council
 - Legislature – Don Dotts
Don, Pat and Tara will meet as a committee to talk about the next steps. Pat will do searches on upcoming bills that are of interest to ASURA.

Will, Tara, Kay, Don and Maria will be attending President Crow's Legislative Breakfast.

- Health Insurance Liaison Council
 - ASRS – Dick Jacob
N/A
 - ADOA – Larry Carlson
N/A

- Membership and Communications Committee – Subcommittee Reports
 - E-News – Barry McNeill
E-news will be coming out this week. The interest in the Blood Drive was underwhelming, so the drive will not take place.

 - Membership Update – Mary White
Mary is learning about membership reports from Connie and she will have updates next month.

 - Obituaries – Tara Roesler
Latest batch was posted yesterday. Tara receives positive responses to the Obituaries, routinely.

 - Prime Times – Jeannette Robson

 - Web Site – Connie McNeill, Barry McNeill
WildApricot has a new app that allows easy access to events, event registrations and the membership database. Membership report will be available next month.

 - Database – Paul Harper

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Discussion of Membership.
Last meeting it was decided to survey non-renewing members. Kay, Pat and Tara worked on the initial draft. Modifications to the survey were recommended at the Executive meeting. Pat noted that the survey will be modified to focus on the questions (a) Why did you decide not to renew? (b) What would encourage you to re-join? (c) How was ASURA membership beneficial? and (d) What would make ASURA better?

Barry expressed that ASURA is not set up to benefit each member but exists for the benefit of the collective union of members. It is not what ASURA does for me, but what ASURA does for us.

The survey will be kept separate from the need to promote ASURA and its mission. The advertising needs to focus of what is the mission of ASURA, that is we exist to advocate for the whole body of retirees. We look out for our interests in legislative actions, health insurance, ASRS benefits and provide social outreach. We need to promote to current and future members of ASURA how our existence is for the common greater good.

Mary White will collaborate with Pat and Tara on the second version of the survey.

The ideas of Affiliate Memberships, Tiered Memberships and automatic (multi-year) renewals were also discussed. Affiliated memberships help us recruit members from NAU and University of Arizona. Out of State memberships will allow us to retain those who have moved away in retirement. They can attend seminars and participate in remote interaction possibilities.

Tim stated that Alumni Association does not have membership, all alumni are automatically members.

These topics merit further discussion and were tabled by Kay for lack of time.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Liability Insurance: Mary met with ASU foundation, which is an organization separate from ASU. They have their own liability coverage and their insurer will not insure us. Mary will not be in the loop and hence we will have to further look into liability issues independently. Kay announced that Maria and Partha will form an ad-hoc committee to look into possibilities.

The Annual Meeting will be at Ability 360, April 17th, from 1pm to 3pm. The speaker Thom Reilly is an expert on democracy issues. Thom has asked us to make a list of topics that he can discuss.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Meeting – **February 13, 2024 in person at CSB 203A**
9:15 am Executive Committee
10:00 am Board Meeting

XI. ACTION ITEMS

XII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.