

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting June 27, 2024 Minutes
Held in person and Zoom**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on June 27, 2024 by President Harvey Sterns at 10:00 am.

II. Welcome & Announcements:

Members attending: Harvey Sterns, John Heminger, Linda Sugarman, Robert Gandee, Ali Hajjafar, Richard Milford, Mel Vye, Martha Vye, Richard Steiner, Kathy DuBose, Tom Vukovich, Diane Vukovich, Rita Klein, Dan Sheffer

Absent: Connie Heldenfels, Cathy Edwards, Mary Schadle, Tom Nichols, Carl Lieberman, Mary Verstraete

After expressing summer greetings to the Board, Harvey reported that his grandson began his studies as a student at UA in the Honors College this summer.

III. Approval of Minutes: One correction was identified. Luncheons for the fall semester are as follows: 9/18, 10/16, 11/20, and 12/18; 11/20 was omitted. Dan Sheffer moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Richard Steiner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report: John Heminger presented the following information:

May 2024

UA Account income: membership dues \$15.00; luncheon proceeds \$110.00; OCHER event reimbursement \$584.69, Road Trip \$1,410.00

UA Account expenses: Aramark Catering (April) \$75.00

Petty Cash income: \$0.00

Petty Cash expenses: \$0.00

UA Account, Petty Cash, and Totals

Initial balance \$10,710.11*; Petty Cash \$152.48; Total \$10,862.59*

Income \$2,119.69 Petty Cash \$0.00 Total \$2,119.69

Expenses \$75.00 Petty Cash \$0.00 Total \$75.00

Final balance \$12,754.80* Petty Cash \$152.48 Total \$12,907.28*

May 2023 Petty Cash \$235.38

* These include dues payments for future years of approximately \$4,728.
The treasurer's report was accepted.

John thanked the Board and the membership for allowing him to be treasurer for six years, and Harvey thanked John for his service.

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V. Corresponding Secretary. A card of condolence was sent to the Frank Thomas family.

VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs: Tom Vukovich reported that 37 people attended the Lobster and Suds event and we made \$109, plus \$29 with the 50/50 raffle so we're in good shape. He said that he emailed John and Betty Miller to express our thanks for making the room available at their community room and he hopes we can return there next year.

On Sept 18 and Oct 16, there is a conflict with either Akron Roundtable or the Akron Press Club, one or the other each day, so parking may be a problem. We may have to park at a distance; members should be informed in the luncheon announcement.

Our luncheon schedule is as follows: Sept 18 - Dr. Wilson, UA History Dept.
Oct 16 – Richard Steiner, Teaching Math in Portugal.
Nov 20 – Open
Dec 18 – President RJ Nemer

Diane said that the Soup and Chili supper will held the first Thursday in November.

B. Membership: Chair Mel Vye reported that he and Dan have sent messages to four different membership groups because they are receiving no support from Emily Zapach in Development. Membership checks are still going to her. Mel and Dan are keeping the web page and membership spreadsheet updated.

It was suggested that Harvey meet with Kim Cole to get help with the problem. Harvey agreed to call Kim right away. Diane expressed concern about getting our luncheon announcements out, and Rita showed concern about getting information to new retirees.

C. Political Action: Dan Sheffer reported that STRS has made national news. Steve Foreman (a reformer) recently resigned. The STRS Board elected Rudy Fichtenbaum as Chair; he and Steen appear to do the bidding of QED System Solutions.

Lynn Hoover is the acting CEO; the former director Neville (wanted status quo) is now on paid administrative leave. The Board recently voted to no longer pay bonuses to in-house investment staff.

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D. Benefits: Linda Sugarman reported that members need a new parking permit to park on campus.

E. Faculty Senate: No report.

F. University & Community Service/Website: Mentioned earlier.

G. Scholarship: Interim Chair Rita Klein mentioned that students have been chosen for the AUAR scholarships but she has received no full names. She would like to have full information so that she can invite them to our luncheon and get something in the fall newsletter.

H. Newsletter: Martha Vye reported that the fall newsletter is almost completed. The deadline for articles is 8/15/2024.

VI. Old Business.

Rita Klein is sending out Thank You notes with \$10 gift cards through campus mail to staff to show our appreciation for their support.

The Ad Hoc Committee on By-laws has not yet met.

VII. New Business.

Kathy DuBose reported that Doug Hausknecht is nominated as our Senate representative. Other people we may consider: Bob Huff, Deb Owens, and Martin Murphy.

Richard Steiner will serve for another term and Ali Hajjafar wishes to be nominated to serve at-large. One more at large person is needed.

We need to fill these offices: president, vice president and treasurer

VIII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully Submitted: Martha Vye, acting Recording Secretary

The next meeting of the 2023-2024 year is scheduled for August 29, 2024 at 10:00 am in the Infocision Board Room.