



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Henderson, Doris Littrell, Patsy Higgins, Bob Churchill, Mary Anne McCollum, Kitty Dickerson, Earl Wilson, G. B. Thompson, Rich Anderson, Libby Miederhoff, Bob Almony, Leslie Palmer and John Parker

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Tom Henderson, President.

MINUTES: The minutes of the MURA meeting July 15, 2015—Motion to approve by Doris Littrell, seconded by Bob Almony. Passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Earl Wilson

So far there have been few financial transactions in the new fiscal year that began on July 1, 2015. Cash receipts for member dues have amounted to \$112.50 and expenditures have been \$134.60. As of September 11, 2015, MURA's cash balance was \$6,069.86 and the lifetime member's reserve fund balance stood at \$79,535.39. MU has not yet billed us for the July 2015 newsletter, which is expected to be in the \$600-\$650 range. Tom added that the newsletter costs will come from the Campus and System as the Chancellor has agreed to pay those on behalf of MURA. It was suggested that Earl wait until the last newsletter has been distributed to send the total bill to the Chancellor's and President's offices.

AUDIT OF MURA FINANCIAL RECORDS: Libby Miderhoff (see reports)

The Audit Committee has completed the audit of MU Retirees Association Financial Records for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, and everything looks good. Earl Wilson is commended for doing an outstanding job as MURA Treasurer which makes it easier to complete the audit.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Bill Fisch has agreed to serve as the MURA Representative to the Osher Board.
- Sandy Stegall has worked on a brochure which is in the process of being printed will hopefully be out shortly.
- Another reminder will be forwarded regarding the Fall Information Meeting on Saturday, September 26. Coffee and pastries will be available at 9:30 a.m. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. Provost Stokes is scheduled to start with her reactions of campus during the first few months of her work as Provost at MU. Kelley Stuck will follow with an update on the retiree medical coverage changes. In addition, in keeping with the MURA 25th Birthday/Anniversary theme, Gary Smith will provide MURA History including how the organization was started.
- The United Way Campaign started Friday, September 11. Funds can be designated to any of 31 agencies or contributed as a general gift. The MURA Letter regarding the United Way has been distributed; there will be additional reminders forthcoming to keep people informed including

something provided at the Informational Meeting. MURA member donations can be submitted a variety of ways. For MURA to get credit for retirees, it might be best to respond to the MURA Letter Gift Designation Form with the return envelope addressed to the University of Missouri United Way Campaign Office, 311 Jesse Hall.

- We received a thank you from Rachael Anderson on behalf of MU Flagship Council for the support coordinated by Earl Wilson.
- UM System has a wellness program (Healthy for Life: T.E. Atkins Wellness Program). The 2016 Wellness Incentive will begin on November 1, 2015, and run through September 30, 2016. Participants can earn up to \$450 for educating and investing in their own wellness via the program. In addition, Extension offers publications as well as nutrition and health events in some instances particularly targeting seniors. Furthermore, retirement modules are being developed by Extension addressing earlier stages of the retirement decision-making process (pre-retirement). Dr. Jo Britt Rankin, Associate Dean and Extension Professor of Human Environmental Sciences, is in the process of negotiating MU Retirees involvement in the System wellness program on a space available basis. Doris Littrell reiterated the need to approach Staff Benefits to include retirees as eligible for the wellness program as well as to be able to include grandparents as dependents of employees as eligible for the education assistance program which is a topic that needs to be included in the next Board Meeting Agenda.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT: Mary Anne McCollum (see reports)

The date of November 18 is being considered for the Fall Legislative Update with a format similar to the MURA Breakfast Meeting with a breakfast buffet 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. program at the Country Club of Missouri. The title being talked about is “Perspectives on the 2016 Legislative Session” covering priorities, budget, etc. The biographies of 5 Representatives and the 1 Senator will be distributed by way of introducing the members of the panel; questions might be taken in the form of notecards. Discussion included whether or not to open the event to people outside the MURA Association and, if so, whether to charge a slightly higher rate. MURA is the sponsor of the event and a dues paying member of the Flagship Council. Reservations will be requested prior to the event under a specific name identifying the reservation as the Legislative Update. It was determined that 45 minutes time for the program would be enough the introductions are eliminated by using the biographies instead and go right into the questions allotting 2 minutes per question and then open up the audience time allowing. Conversation might continue if anyone is available to stay following the end of the program. After the session begins, in late January to early February, traveling to Jefferson City for a legislative visit including box lunches is under discussion.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Kitty Dickerson and Mary Anne McCollum (see reports)

- The Columbia Business Times published an article that covered the 2.5 million dollar donation to the Campaign Fund wherein the Chancellor talks about MURA being the most active University retiree’s group he has seen. This is good as good coverage and exposure in representing MURA community-wide.
- Tomorrow, September 17, is the MURA Night at the Museum which will be in keeping with the MURA 25th Birthday/Anniversary theme. 70 people have signed up for the event, we will have limited seating. Those who are more able are asked to save the seating fort for people who

have trouble standing even the program will be short. Jo Turner and Sandy Stegall are the Social Committee Chairs who have done a great job of planning this event. In addition, thanks to Kee Groshong, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the MURA Anniversary with the Chamber of Commerce and media representatives to provide more visibility for the MURA Association with a Champaign toast following the ribbon cutting.

- The MURA history segment to be presented by Gary Smith at the Information Meeting on September 26 will comprise Part I of the history to be given. There is too much information available to be given in one session. Therefore, Part 2 of the segment will be given at a separate event in December/March.
- The Holiday Luncheon--Saturday, December 19--will revolve around the MURA 25th Anniversary theme. Gary Smith will present MURA history, Key Groshong and Jackie Jones will speak from a Jesse Hall perspective with a humorous, behind the scenes rendition of what they were not able to share at the time.
- MURA Monthly Breakfast Meetings the first Tuesday of every month, September-May, 8:00-9:30 a.m.—Country Club of Missouri and are coordinated and made possible by John Parker.
- Kitty distributed the Fall Events Highlights flyer that was provided in the July 15 MURA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.
- Mary Anne distributed fund raising Sponsorship Levels and Benefits information that were included in the attachments for the July 15 MURA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

MEMBERSHIP: Dick Otto/Tom Henderson (see reports)

Dick sends his apologies that he will not be able to attend the meeting today. As President of the Boone County Historical Society, they are having a meeting at this time with donors. Regarding MURA memberships, there has been little activity since the beginning of the fiscal year. As of August 26 it is reported that some 840 people have paid their dues for 2015 or beyond (LIFE members). There are substantially more lifetime members than annual members. Doris inquired about the outcome of the discussion to raise life membership fee from \$75 to \$100. One or two of the campuses (Kansas City) has gone to \$100; St. Louis has gone to zero. We are the most active of all the four campuses. Everyone is encouraged to contact one or two former colleagues to discuss becoming MURA members. Kitty suggests an example of telling members what MURA has done for members is the free email service that was negotiated by Tom Henderson on behalf of all MURA members.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Barbara Harris/Tom Henderson

- Barb Harris has been activated to employee status in order to assist with annual enrollment.
- Barb Harris is sending announcements such as the MURA Night at the Museum, Fall Information Meeting, etc. to the Pulse and Columbia Daily Tribune.
- Darlene Schmitz is updating the MURA website link; she would like everything to be posted on the website to be forwarded in PDF format.
- The website is more up-to-date than in the past as Darlene has gone through the links to keep links active and delete any that are no longer relevant.
- Darlene is not able to change the fonts, background, print formats, etc. as the website is piggy backing on the Alumni Chapter system.
- Work has begun toward another newsletter which is targeted to come out in November; we are collecting items for January/February in order to get things out there.
- The MURA Board Directory is in the process of being updated; additions, deletions, changes, etc. are to be forwarded to Tom.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: John Parker

- The speaker for the first breakfast meeting on September 1 was Dr. Carrie Duncan, MU Professor of Religious Studies, who talked about ancient religious diggings in Jordan
- The speaker for the breakfast meeting on Tuesday, October 6, will be Tom Freeman III who is one of the premier oil spill responders in the world. He will talk about cleaning up the Gulf spill providing insights into whether or not it is recovering, Yellowstone, the Saudi Arabia spill, etc.
- A number of other speakers were announced who will be presenting the first Tuesdays of the month from September-May.
- John Parker as a member of the Friends of Music Board announced an upcoming event under the direction of the School of Music. "An Evening with Cole Porter" is scheduled for Saturday, February 3 in the Reynolds Alumni Center including ensembles, piano, Valentine's Day songs, etc. John suggested that MURA make available the membership listserv the School of Music as a vehicle to promote MURA member attendance at this event. Everyone agreed that this was a viable use of the membership listserv as this is a University event for University people including retirees.

EX-OFFICIO, AD HOC, AND OTHER SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE MURA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Earl Wilson (see reports)

- About 30 retiree organizations in the Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) maintain scholarship programs.
- Scholarships can be a visible and worthwhile means of showing support for MU from MURA as an organization.
- A committee is in place to explore the possibilities of establishing a MURA scholarship program pending Board approval.
- The committee has explored alternate approaches to establishing a scholarship program in favor of establishing a scholarship within the framework of MU Advancement and the Office of Student Financial Aid.
- There are several areas of unmet scholarship need that exist at MU; endowed scholarship funds offer several advantages—growth, stability, and predictability; contributions can be made directly to an endowment distribution account to annually fund a scholarship while working to meet the \$25,000 minimum required for the principal account.
- The committee recommended that MURA accept the report and approve the creation of a scholarship program and authorize the committee to develop criteria and guidelines to be brought before the board for further discussion and action. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting adjourned 3:26 PM.

Next meeting of the Board is Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie J. Palmer, MURA Secretary

MURA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

AGENDA

307 B HOUSH CONFERENCE ROOM
3RD FLOOR ALUMNI CENTER
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015, 2:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER – TOM HENDERSON

SECRETARY'S REPORT - LESLIE PALMER

TREASURER'S UPDATE - EARL WILSON

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT – LIBBY MIEDERHOFF

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE – TOM HENDERSON

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT - KITTY DICKERSON/MARY ANN MCCOLLUM

1. EVENTS SCHEDULE
2. FUND RAISING EFFORTS

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIP REPORT – EARL WILSON

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE - DICK OTTO

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT—JOHN PARKER

COMMUNICATION REPORT: BARB HARRIS/TOM HENDERSON

1. FORWARDING OF EMAIL
2. NEWSLETTER
3. WEBSITE
4. BROCHURE

APPOINTMENT TO OSHER BOARD – BILL FISCH

ADJOURN

September 10 2015

Tom Henderson, President
MU Retirees Association

Subject: Audit of MURA Financial Records

The Audit Committee has completed the audit of MU Retirees Association Financial Records for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

We traced deposits to bank statements and financial reports. We traced disbursements to source documents, bank statements and financial reports. We believe the financial statements accurately reflect the financial position of the MU Retirees Association.

We noted the change in investment policy for the Life Members Reserve improved the cash position of the organization sufficient to allow a transfer of \$5,000 to the Investment account. We also noted the IRS Form 990-N and the Annual Registration Report to the Missouri Secretary of State were both filed promptly.

We appreciate the assistance and cooperation of the MURA Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,



AUDIT COMMITTEE
Libby Miederhoff, Chair
Jim Lay

Cc: Earl Wilson



September 2015

Dear Fellow University of Missouri Retiree,

I am writing to update you on some of the great work that the Heart of Missouri United Way is doing for mid-Missouri. As you may know, there are many families and individuals in our community who go without proper food, shelter, and essential medical care every day due to a variety of factors. Through the Heart of Missouri United Way support of services provided by its partner agencies, donations are helping children succeed in school, increasing financial stability & workplace resources, improving people's health and wellness, responding to emergency needs and helping promote volunteerism in our community.

The United Way saw measurable community impact results over the past year, including:

- **Education:** An average of 69% of tutored students increased or maintained proficiency in language arts, 76% did so in math and 84% did so in science.
- **Income:** 166 adults and 140 children served maintained continuous housing and avoided homelessness.
- **Health:** 64% of youth substance abuse program participants reduced illegal drug use and 72% reduced alcohol use.
- **Safety Net:** 25,607 individuals and families were provided with basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, safety services, and referrals to wrap-around services that lead to sustainability.

To review a full report of the 2014 community impact results please visit www.uwheartmo.org.

In addition, the United Way and MU are linked through a number of programs in our community, including three United Way-funded agencies: Family Medicine Residents work at the Family Health Center; University social workers are involved with treatment efforts at Phoenix Health Programs; Physicians in MU Health are active in child advocacy through the Rainbow House. These three connections demonstrate the interlocking association between educating our community while also serving our community. The 2015 University of Missouri United Way campaign kicks-off on Friday, September 11. We are hopeful that you will help support the United Way's efforts. We are so thankful and appreciative of any support you can provide.

To donate, you can make a monthly contribution through payroll deduction, or make a one-time gift by check or credit card. A pledge card is enclosed for your convenience.

PLEASE NOTE: You will have an opportunity to designate your gift to one or more of the funded agencies this year, if you so choose.

If you are already enrolled in the University's Easy Access Retiree Program and have a University Pawprint, you can visit www.unitedway.missouri.edu and give using our secure on-line process. With the online option, you can choose: 1) a one-time gift; 2) monthly contributions to begin in January 2016; or 3) select sustaining partner to make an ongoing monthly contribution which automatically renews each year.

If you have any questions, Brandon Guffey, or Lisa Wimmenauer are happy to assist you at (573) 882-7254. You can also contact the Heart of Missouri United Way at (573) 443-4523 or office@uwheartmo.org.

Thank you for all you do to help so many, the United Way!

Thomas A. Henderson
President, MU Retirees Association



Celebrating MURA's
25th Birthday



MU Retirees Association (MURA) Fall Information Meeting

Reynolds Alumni Center
Saturday, Sept. 26 - 9:30 a.m. -noon

- ❑ "A Newcomer's 360° Perspective on MU Academics." - Dr. Garnett Stokes, Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor
- ❑ "Update on University of Missouri Retiree Medical Coverage Changes" - Kelley Stuck, Associate Vice President for Total Compensation, UM System
- ❑ "Our Beginning: MURA's Early Years" - Gary Smith, former MU Director of Admissions and Registrar
- ❑ MURA Birthday Celebration

Report of the Committee to Explore Establishing a MURA Scholarship Program

September 16, 2015, MURA Board Meeting

BACKGROUND:

In June, 2015, Tom Henderson appointed a three-person ad hoc committee to look into the feasibility of establishing a MURA scholarship program. The members were Kitty Dickerson, David Clithero (recently retired Associate Vice-Chancellor for Advancement), and Earl Wilson, chair. After its first meeting on July 16, the committee was expanded to include Brian Foster (retired Provost), Doris Littrell, and Leslie Palmer.

Tom had learned from the executive director of the Association of Retiree Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE) that about 30 retiree organizations maintained scholarship programs, reinforcing his belief that scholarships could be a visible and worthwhile means of showing support for MU from MURA *as an organization*. While retirees serve and support MU in many valued ways as individuals, MURA's organizational activities focus most visibly and mainly on member interests.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS:

At its initial meeting on July 16, 2015, the three-person committee explored alternate approaches to establishing a scholarship program. The committee ruled out a program administered by MURA or a foundation created by MURA as being too complex for a fully volunteer organization lacking leadership continuity and having no paid staff. The most feasible alternative, and the one that appears universal among retiree organizations at other universities, is to establish a scholarship within the well-developed framework of MU Advancement and the Office of Student Financial Aid.

At its September 1, 2015, meeting, the full committee met with Gena Scott, head of scholarships for MU Advancement. Key among the points she made were:

- (1) Several areas of unmet scholarship need exist at MU, including some that the committee's research has identified as common scholarship areas at other retiree organizations.
- (2) Endowed scholarship funds have several advantages over those funded on an annual basis, including growth over time, stability, and predictability.
- (3) Once MURA signs a scholarship agreement, it could make contributions directly to the endowment distribution account to annually fund a scholarship while working to meet the \$25,000 minimum required for the principal account.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Granted that (1) many other university retiree organizations have seen the need for and maintained successful scholarship programs, (2) areas of critical unmet scholarship need exist at MU, and (3) an MU framework exists by which to minimize the administrative burden on the MURA board.

The committee hereby recommends that MURA approve the creation of a scholarship program and authorizes the committee to develop criteria and guidelines to be brought before the board for further discussion and action. Further, no agreement shall be signed with MU nor shall any scholarship provision be implemented before such final approval by the board. Moreover, at such time as the endowment may be created, MURA member contributions will be on a purely voluntary basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl Wilson, Chair