

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION MINUTES
April 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by President-elect Ken Starck.

Persons Present: Kris Canfield, E. Ann Ford, Dick Johns, Nancy Lynch, Nancy Ross, Gene Spaziani, Ken Starck, Pamela Willard, Nancy Williams, and Phil Klein

Reports from Officers:

Secretary

March 11, 2014 meeting Minutes

Spaziani moved, Williams seconded a motion to approve the minutes with several revisions.

Approved unanimously

Treasurer

Treasurer's report as of April 1, 2014

\$2,287.58 Total checking account balance

\$2,559.28 Hills CD account balance – matures 10/2/14

\$1,021.23 Vanguard Money Market

\$12,997.58 Vanguard GNMA @2.20%

\$16,578.09 Total Reserve Funds

Johns moved, Spaziani seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Approved unanimously

President Report – Rick Walton (written report)

- The last two UIRA Board meetings this Spring are scheduled for May 13th and June 10th.
- Rick requests that a copy of all the reports to be given at the Annual Meeting be sent to him the week before. Ken Starck suggested that they be sent to all the Board members as well.
- There has been some voiced concern by a member that the business meeting and the luncheon be separated to accommodate those who do not wish to come to the luncheon. After some discussion it was decided that the Annual Luncheon reminder will include a note that persons are welcome to come after lunch and participate in the Business Meeting only if they wish.

Past President Report –

Nancy Williams reported that:

Ken Yerrington has asked to be replaced as the UIRA Archivist. It was noted that the Archives are kept at the University Library.

President-elect Report Ken Starck reported that:

- the photos in the Photo Contest have been judged and the judge wrote comments for each one.

Starck suggested we award cash prizes in each category of \$50 for First Place, \$25 for Second Place, and \$15 for Third Place. This is a total of \$270 for prize money.

Ford moved Williams seconded Passed Unanimously

Starck said the judge declined payment. Any stipend, the judge suggested, could be given to a student organization the judge sponsors in the UI School of Journalism. Starck suggested a gift of \$100.

Willard moved Johns seconded Passed Unanimously

Reports from Committees:

Newsletter

Ann Ford reported that:

- her replacement as Newsletter Editor is still being sought.
- the June issue of the Gray Hawk will be the last for this year. The deadline for the May issue is April 21, 2014.

Membership

Dick Johns reported that:

- during the month of March there were 3 new memberships and 2 renewals processed bringing the total UIRA membership to 576.
- he has received some feedback concerning the fact that we voted to have only electronic copies of the Gray Hawk next year. Lengthy discussion ensued about the advisability of this and how it could be resolved. It was decided to table the issue to give more time to study and better understand the impact of no paper copy of the Gray Hawk.

FRIC

Nancy Williams reporting for Rick Borchard:

- UI Choice ACO -- lots of discussion, with the issues being cost, privacy and metrics. FRIC voted not to recommend. They aren't necessarily against the idea, but are against UIHC asking for the money.
- 2015 Out of pocket maximum change -- the issue is whether to combine the medical OPM with the pharmaceutical OPM. The Fed was going to require combining the two to make a single \$2800 OPM, but has backed off. FRIC voted to keep the OPM maximums separate as they currently are (\$1700 medical; \$1100 pharmaceutical).
- Specialty drugs -- issue is whether to move specialty drugs into medical or leave it on the pharmaceutical side. FRIC voted to leave it where it is on the pharmaceutical side. Saunders said there is more control under pharmaceutical (they may begin for instance not with a 30-day supply, but a smaller supply until they know if the patient tolerates the drug. On the medical side, physicians buy the drug, then mark it up more.)
- Health Care Spending Accounts -- Federal government will allow \$500 from spending accounts to be carried over (until 18 months after termination of employment, like COBRA). Currently unused money in HCSA is swept into UI account and pays for UI Wellness (\$1.5-\$2 million annually). If employees are allowed to carry over \$500, they would first have to spend new money in their HCSA, then the carry-over. Since this isn't an insurance issue, it does not have to be decided this spring, so FRIC opted to wait until September. At issue is the potential loss of funding for UI Wellness. FRIC members were advised to talk to co-workers, etc.
- Infertility coverage -- a change in the ACA deals with freezing eggs/sperm for future use. UI has covered harvesting and freezing in situations of medical condition (such as cancer treatment, etc.). Under the ACA, it's wide open, with no restrictions, although employers are permitted to add restrictions back in. Wellmark tells us that there has been a spike in usage (young women freezing their eggs because they are in school, getting tenured, etc.). Also, better technology now means eggs can be frozen for 20-30 years. Although it costs about \$300 per year, that will add up with increased usage and longer duration. FRIC decided they need to know more. Wellmark will be asked for data on the increased usage (how many, etc.). Saunders will get data from UI Fertility clinic. UI used to have a \$25K lifetime maximum and FRIC could suggest a limit. For instance, UI will pay for the procedure, but only if for a medical condition, and pay for freezing for some number of years. Deferred.

- Dental changes -- FRIC voted last October to increase the orthodontic coverage from 30% to 50% at a cost of ~\$157K. Now there are two additional proposals: 1) allow carryover of whatever of the \$2000 is not used to a maximum of \$2000. New costs would be about \$420K. 2) Add a dental network to include providers in a PPO network. Level 1 includes UI College of Dentistry; Level 2 is all other Delta dental dentists, and all non-participating dentists are level 3. In Level 1 dentists take 20% less in payment (and thus get to be in Level 1). This would save about \$400K. FRIC did not have time to review this, so it will be on the agenda next month.

Programs

Nancy Lynch/Ken Starck reported that:

- the meeting at Herbert Hoover Library was attended by 50+ members. It was well received. A bill for \$147 for the entry fees was given to the Treasurer.
- the Blue Zone Project meeting had about 40 attendees who were enthusiastic about the various tables of information and the speaker.
- the first meeting next Fall will be held at the Driving Simulator on the Oakdale Campus.

Directors at Large

Gene Spaziani reported that:

- he has the first Survey of University Retirees completed. He shared it with the Board and asked for suggestions/changes. A few minor details were suggested.

Gene suggested having a drawing from the returned surveys for \$100 as an incentive to get a greater percentage of returns.

Williams moved Lynch seconded Passed Unanimously

EFC Contact

Pam Willard reported that she had no further word on our request for free parking for retirees on University business around the campus.

New Business

Phil Klein, who was invited to the meeting, shared his proposal for a second survey of University Retirees whereby a mechanism for creating interest groups among members would be created. Considerable discussion followed. The consensus was that the idea is well worth pursuing. He and Gene Spaziani and perhaps others they recruit will continue to work on the ideas and bring it to the next Board

Meeting adjourned

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 1:00 PM

Nancy Ross, Secretary