

UIRA Board of Directors Meeting

November 13, 2018

Attending: Emil Rinderspacher, Kris Canfield, Diana Harris, Richard Saunders, Mike Barron, Lois Lembke, Billie Townsend, Dean Borg, Bennie Hawkins, Diane Martin

Call to Order – Emil Rinderspacher

Because Sue was out of town, Emil presided over the meeting.

Reports from Officers

Secretary – Diane Martin

After correction of a typo, Bennie moved and Billie seconded that the minutes of the October meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer – Kris Canfield

Kris distributed the treasurer's report as follows:

\$8,924.29	Vanguard GNMA 2.20%
\$3,154.68	Vanguard Short-Term Investment
\$12,078.97	Total Reserve Funds

Kris reported that there wasn't much change in the treasurer's report. It was noted that we don't have an Investment Committee or a financial advisor. We're not seeing growth in our Vanguard funds. It was agreed that we need to discuss this at a future meeting.

Mike moved and Bennie seconded that we approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Sue had prepared the agenda for the meeting, but was called out of town. There was an agenda item about a gift certificate for Amy An. Amy reviewed the UIRA books for the previous two years. Due to Sue's absence, it was unknown if this gift has been purchased and presented.

President-elect – Emil Rinderspacher

Emil reported that there were 82 present at the recent UI Benefits Update. The attendance at this event was down from previous years, but it was noted that there were many sessions held earlier in the fall. The UIRA session is the only one that's taped and shown on the university channel, so it's available for those unable to attend in person. Kris will provide payment to Parkview Church for the use of their space for this program.

At the end of October, 80+ attended Transforming the University of Iowa by Rob Lehnertz. It was well-received.

Later this week, Chris Okishi will present What's Playing, Coming to and Touring from Broadway. This program is open to the public.

On December 3, President Bruce Harreld will speak at the Levitt Center.

In January, Jean Donham will speak on Fake News and Alternative Facts at the Coralville Public Library. Other programs for second semester are in progress.

Past President – Mike Barron

Sue Otto, Penni Ryan, Penny Hall, Kathy Holeton and Mike met again to work on the 2020 Big Ten Retirees Association meeting that will be held in Iowa City on either August 7-9 or August 14-16. They've toured and reviewed proposals from one hotel in Coralville and one in Iowa City. They're weighing the desirability of proximity to campus in Iowa City versus the lower cost of the site in Coralville. The goal is to keep the registration fee at the \$175 that has been the cost for the past two years.

President – Sue Otto

Sue had provided a write-up of her research into two online organizational management systems, Wild Apricot and Neon CRM. Event and membership management are the two primary needs that would be streamlined by such a system. Currently the record keeping by the membership director requires hours of tracking each month, it's difficult to communicate with members and there's hesitation to present programs that necessitate a charge. UIRA has no method for accepting payment by credit card.

In reviewing the treasurer's report, it's evident that we currently don't have the finances to support these systems. Future discussion about an increase in dues or financial sponsorship possibilities will be added to future agendas.

Reports from Committees

Newsletter – Diana Harris

Diana reported that the November newsletter has been distributed and she's working on December. The transition from Linda Muston was a smooth one and she's enjoying her new position.

Membership – Lois Lembke

UIRA currently has 755 members from 586 households. Sixty-four new members didn't renew their memberships and sixty-four continuing members also did not renew. Lois reminded the Board that she sends out a reminder in May of expiring memberships followed by a second reminder in September.

Per the agreement, UIRA should have received a list of new University retirees at the end of October. That list hasn't been received.

Funded Retirement and Insurance Committee (FRIC) – Richard Saunders

Richard reported that there are 18,000 employees at the University covered by health benefits, but only 1,600 retirees and spouses insured by the University.

An electronic survey of employees asked "are you willing to pay more to have insurance" or "are you willing to pay more when you use your insurance". The results of this question to both employees and retirees resulted in a 50/50 response. Since the expense for health benefits for the U continue to rise,

the University will decide after the first of the year which of these two methods of increase will be passed on to those insured by the U.

Old Business

Discussion of Revisions to the UIRA Bylaws – Diana Harris

Sue had distributed proposed revisions prior to the meeting. The proposed changes were reviewed, but no votes were taken. If Board members have comments, they should be sent to Sue and/or Diana.

New Business

Recruitment of Nominating Committee chair and members and Awards Committee chair and members – suggestions needed

Please send suggestions to Sue. Emil pointed out that those who frequently attend the UIRA programs are likely to be the most interested.

Adjourn – the meeting was adjourned at 2:12.

Next meeting – December 11, 2018.