

UIRA Board of Directors Meeting

May 14, 2019

Attending: Sue Otto, Kris Canfield, Mike Barron, Lois Lembke, Dean Borg, Benny Hawkins, Chuck Dayton, Richard Saunders, Billie Townsend, Sam Cochran, Judy Barkalow, Diane Martin

Call to Order – Sue Otto

Reports from Officers

Secretary – Diane Martin

Lois moved and Billie seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April meeting as distributed. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer – Kris Canfield

Kris distributed the treasurer's report as follows:

\$9,368.20	Vanguard BNMA 2.20%
\$3,255.97	Vanguard Short-Term Investment
\$12,624.17	Total Reserve Funds

As previously reported, the Senior College is assisting UIRA with a grant for funds to cover set-up, data migration, creation of forms and annual subscription costs for 3 years for NeonCRM, an organizational management package. Sue has now signed the agreement with Neon. The funds from the Senior College are being processed through the Center for Advancement and a check will be deposited in the UIRA accounts to cover these upcoming expenses.

President-Elect – Emil Rinderspacher

Emil was ill, so could not attend the meeting.

Past-President – Mike Barron

The Year-end Membership Potluck will be held on June 5 at Terry Trueblood Recreation Center. Mike will be finalizing the main dish order with Hy-Vee within the next few days. It was discussed that once UIRA transitions onto Neon, it might be possible to ask for reservations and main dish preferences. Currently, the food order is based on past-experience.

President - Sue Otto

Sue noted that the registration fees for the 2020 Big Ten Retirees Association Meeting that will be held in Iowa City/Coralville won't cover expenses. One of the tasks for the planning group will be to ask for donations from organizations/companies in the area.

It was announced that the International Events and World Politics Interest Group has had dwindling attendance at meetings, so will not continue. There is still an active writing group and the Steppers group meets weekly.

It was noted that Interest Groups are member-driven so may organize, then disband when there are no longer interested participants.

Reports from Committees

Membership – Lois Lembke

We currently have 688 members representing 525 households.

Sue has received from Human Resources the names of 153 University retirees for the past six months. Letters of invitation and membership forms will be sent to those who aren't already members.

June 30, 2019 is the date of membership expiration for 352 members. Letters and membership forms will be sent to them soon.

Old Business

Update on Neon

Sue signed the contract with Neon on April 30. Russ Lenth and Kay Barron will be members of the UIRA Implementation Team. Neon will be in contact to set up time and procedures for importation of data. It's anticipated that there will be a period of 8-12 weeks to get up and running.

Discussion of Dues: Free First Year, Amount

The Board discussed current policies. Currently retirees receive UIRA membership free of charge for a period up to 15 months. In general, the largest number of UI employees retire at the end of June and receive the first year of membership at no charge. Those who retire in April, May or during June receive one year plus 1-3 additional months free of charge. The Board questioned whether this serves as an enticement. Because dues are low (\$10/year or \$25 for three years), the Board questioned the need to continue this policy as it creates some confusion. In addition, providing a free year may be reducing income.

Several options were discussed. Dean moved that we leave dues at the \$10/year or \$25/3 year level, but eliminate the free first year. Billie seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Emil was unable to attend the meeting, but had sent word that the Board may need to revisit the budget and dues discussion in the fall.

Adjourn – Next Meeting – June 11, 2019, 1:00 p.m. Coralville Public Library, Meeting Room B