

UIRA Board of Directors Meeting

June 9, 2020

Attending: Emil Rinderspacher, Sam Cochran, Sue Otto, Kris Canfield, Billie Townsend, Lois Lembke, Chuck Dayton, Richard Saunders, Deb Cobb, Dave Fitzgerald, Ed Dove, Pat Mason-Browne, David Hamilton, Stephen Vlastos, Diane Martin

This meeting was held on Zoom due to the Corona virus pandemic. Board meetings for April and May as well as spring programs, the annual meeting and picnic were cancelled due to the pandemic.

Call to Order – Emil Rinderspacher, President

To begin the meeting, Emil asked that all current as well as nominated new Board members introduce themselves.

Appointment of Ed Dove to fill Dean Borg's term

Emil recommended that the Board approve the appointment of Ed Dove to fill Dean Borg's unexpired term of office. Sue so moved. The motion was seconded by Billie and it was approved unanimously.

Reports from Officers:

Secretary – Diane Martin

The minutes were approved.

Treasurer – Kris Canfield

Kris sent the May treasurer's report electronically. Expenses were higher than some months due to the awards given to the photo contest winners.

Most of the UIRA memberships expire in May, June or July, so income from renewed membership dues will be included in the next treasurer's report.

President – Emil Rinderspacher

Electronic Election Plans

Emil has been working with Warren Boe to set up a plan for election of new UIRA Board members. (This is necessitated by the cancellation of the Annual Meeting this spring due to the pandemic.) Sue Otto will send an email to members with a ballot attached. Members will be given two weeks to return their votes. This process is complicated by some households having two members, but UIRA has only one email address on file.

New Board Member Orientation

Emil has sent out orientation materials to the nominated Board members. He is also working to update Board notebooks. Lois has an example from the past that might be a useful guide.

Annual Reports

Annual reports need to be added to the UIRA website by July 1. Two have been turned in; two more are needed.

Programs and Program Committee for Next Year

The President-elect is no longer the chair of the Program Committee. The hope is to have a standing committee chair who will serve for three years. Current committee members are: Billie Townsend, Sue Otto, Carolyn Wanat, Nancy Williams and Alice Atkinson. Emil will convene a meeting of the committee soon and the group will appoint or recruit a chair.

The Senior College has decided to proceed with online programs in the fall and may continue that practice in the spring semester as well. Their last program was presented on Zoom.

Sam has the information about the UIRA programs that had to be cancelled this spring. Some may be appropriate for electronic presentation, but others are not.

One Day at Iowa Scholarship Fundraising

UIRA has endowed scholarship(s). The University day for fundraising was scheduled for this spring, but had to be postponed. No future date has been announced.

President-Elect – Sam Cochran

Sam reiterated that there will not be in-person programs during the first semester. The Big Ten Conference of Retirees Associations that was to be held this summer in Iowa City has been cancelled.

UIRA Board meetings will continue on Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month. The Board typically didn't meet in July and August, but because the April and May meetings had to be cancelled, the plan is for a meeting on Tuesday, August 11.

The Budget for UIRA is usually set in the summer, but that task hasn't been completed. Expenses will be lower than usual due to the cancellation of programs, the picnic and the annual meeting and luncheon.

For strategic planning purposes, a Past President Task Force was being formed to be chaired by Mike Barron. One of the goals was to create a more formal relationship with the University in order to better sustain UIRA. This group is on hold due to the pandemic.

Past President – Sue Otto

Sue noted that the June picnic had to be cancelled. She also mentioned that this event was to be held at the Unitarian Universalist Society. The advantages of this new location were lower fees and that tables and chairs did not have to be set up and taken down before and after the picnic.

Reports from Committees

Membership – Lois Lembke

Lois reported that current membership is 630. This includes 488 households. Membership renewal reminders went out to 399 members. The transition to NEON has not yet been completed. In addition, UIRA has not received the names of new retirees from Human Resources.

Funded Retirement and Insurance Committee (FRIC) – Richard Saunders

FRIC held their last meeting on Zoom. Richard will try to get a list of the approximately 250 people who retired from the University in the past year.

New Business

Emil welcomed David Hamilton, Ed Dove, Pat Mason-Browne, David Fitzgerald and Stephen Vlastos to their first meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned.