

**The Association of the University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting, June 23, 2016
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium**

- 1. Opening Remarks.** The Board meeting was called to order by President Diane Vukovich at 10:00 a.m. Others present were Bob Blankenship, Frank Thomas Loren Hoch. Rita Klein, Neal Raber, Cathy Edwards, Laura Moss, Pam Rupert, Dan Sheffer, Linda Sugarman, Ed Lasher, Bob Gandee, Carl Lieberman, Hans Zbinden, Tom Vukovich, Stu Terrass, June Burton, Ali Hajjafar, Rita Klein. Martha Vye and John Heminger. Absent with notice was Velma Pomrenke. The minutes of the May 26th, 2016 meeting were approved as written.
- 2. Treasurer** Bob Blankenship reports a balance of \$5,988.14 as of May 31, 2016. This compares with a balance of \$7,589.48 for May 31, 2015. It was moved to accept the report, subject to audit.

3. Committee Reports.

- A. Programs.** Tom Vukovich summarized the topics and speakers to be heard at the six Luncheons during the coming academic year.

September: Goodyear Photo Archives, Victor Fleischer
October : The role of Foreign Politics in Presidential Elections, Dr. Walter Hixson
November: Analysis of the 2016 Presidential Election, Dr. Steve Brooks
December: Holiday Party
February: Travelogue Antarctica, Claire Purdy
March: The Story of John Mohn, Mandy Pond
April : Fulbright Scholarship to Finland, Dr. Susan Olson

The very popular Special Events are scheduled as follows:

November 4 Soup and Chili
February 12 Valentine's Brunch and Theater
May 19 Lobster and Suds

- B. Membership.** Frank Thomas reported that he did a mass mailing in early June and about 117 responded with payment. 19 new members have joined us. We still have about 250 members who have not paid, but July 1 is still a few days off. He will make a US Postal mailing after one more mass emailing in order to reduce the cost of stamps. At the August meeting he will provide to the board members lists of members who have paid and not paid.

- C. Political Action.** Bob Gandee reported that there was no OCHER meeting this month.

- D. Benefits.** Linda Sugarman distributed the following report:

STRS has released the health care premiums for 2017.

The monthly premium for a benefit recipient without Medicare (typically under the age of 65 who never worked under Medicare) for the Medical Mutual Plan will increase from \$309 to \$380 dollars a month. This is mainly due to the reduction in

STRS Subsidiary for those without Medicare.

Retiree Dependent Insurance is a benefit that remains under AAUP Union Contract. The contract runs through December 31, 2020.

There are really two plans for retiree dependents, one for those without Medicare (Typically under age 65) and one for those with Medicare (typically those over 65 years of age). The contribution to the monthly premium will be 16% in 2017 and will increase by 1% each year of the contract.

In the past the plan for those Retiree Dependents without Medicare has been the same as for active employees. We expect that to continue.

Those on Medicare have a completely different plan, known as a carve out reimbursement plan. We have been told that the out of pocket expense for those people will remain as is.

E. Faculty Senate. Neal Raber reported that the Faculty Senate did not meet this month.

F. University and Community Service / Website. Dan Sheffer reports that he explored the “counter” idea for our website to measure how much the website is used. He was able to access a “page view” from December through May, which indicated 1,261 hits. He is currently working on adding the June through December program information.

G. Scholarship. Carl Lieberman reported that we have \$94,000 balance in our AUAR Scholarship Fund. We can offer two scholarships at \$1500.00 each.

H. Newsletter. Pam Rupert asked that any information intended for inclusion in our newsletter be sent to her by August 15th. The projected publication date is early September, but this is dependent on the Printing Department’s working schedule.

Looking at the future issues of the Newsletter. Pam asked our group to suggest members to be interviewed. After a short conversation, the names of Roger Bain and Minnie Pritchard were recommended.

President Vukovich suggested that we consider adding a “What Are They Doing Now?” section to the Newsletter. Our members could then send us short updates on their current activities.

There was a discussion on the cost of the newsletter. For the purpose of planning and comparison would be useful to know the cost of the newsletter issues for the past five years. Pam Rupert will talk with Tony regarding obtaining a breakdown of publication costs.

President Vukovich appointed a Finance Committee composed of Treasurer, Bob Blankenship, Assistant Treasurer, Stu Terrass and President Elect, Neal Raber to review the Association’s financial status and present fundraising suggestions for the

Association and its Endowed Scholarship at the August Board meeting.

- 4. New Business.** The meeting ended in a very pleasant manner. Diane Vukovich handed out Certificates of Recognition for Outstanding Service to AUAR to the two retiring board members. Neal Raber received his certificate for his service as Faculty Senator; Hans Zbinden was awarded his certificate as Recording Secretary. A round of applause brought the meeting to a close at noon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00Noon.

Hans Zbinden, recording secretary
Next Executive Board Meeting is August 25, 2016
Alumni Conference Room, InfoCision Stadium
Minutes (69)