

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)
Executive Board Meeting May 20, 2021 Minutes
Held via Zoom**

I. Call to order. The Board meeting was called to order on May 20, 2021 at 10:02 am by President Elect Rita Klein.

II. Welcome & Announcements: Rita noted she is glad to meet with board members today and is chairing the meeting in Dan Sheffer's absence. Founders Day will not be held in person or virtually so she and other members of the board are putting together a packet of materials for new retirees inviting them to be active participants in AUAR.

Members attending via Zoom or phone: Bob Gandee, Jo Ann Collier, Ali Hajjafar, John Heminger, Rita Klein, Neal Raber, Mel Vye, Martha Vye, Diane Vukovich, and Tom Vukovich

Excused: Cathy Edwards, Tim Lillie, Laura Moss-Spitler, Dan Sheffer, Richard Steiner, Linda Sugarman and Tom Nichols and Carl Lieberman

III. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the April 22, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

IV. Treasurer's Report. John Heminger reported:

April 2021

UA Account income: dues \$60.00

UA Account expenses: \$0.00

Petty Cash income: \$0.00

Petty Cash expenses: \$0.00

	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial balance	\$8,390.57	\$79.40	\$8,469.97
Income	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$60.00
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Final balance	\$8,450.57	\$79.40	\$8,529.97
April 2020			
Final balance	\$9,162.81	\$254.40	\$9,417.21

The treasurer's report was approved subject to audit.

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V. Corresponding Sugarman. No report.

VI. Committee Reports.

A. Programs: Tom and Diane Vukovich are working on the Fall schedule for luncheon presentations. Sheldon Wrice has been contacted for September and no response has been received at this point. President Miller is still tentatively scheduled for the November program. Any suggestions board members have will be gladly received.

B. Membership: Mel Vye reported there are 68 new members, 246 active members and a total of 314 members on the books. No scholarship donations have occurred in the last month.

C. Political Action. Bob Gandee said that technically there is no report. OCHER is scheduled to meet May 25, 2021. The biggest concern relates to the STRS report and the feasibility of reinstating the COLA.

D. BenefitsLinda Sugarman. No report.

E. Faculty Senate. Ali Hajjafar reported:

Faculty Senate Meeting, May 6, 2021

Chair Saliga called the meeting to order. In her remark she said that the first item of action is to elect a Chair (two year term), a Vice Chair (two year term), and a secretary (one year term) for next year. Linda Saliga and Kate Budd were nominated for the Chair position. By a vote of 25 to 10 Kate Budd was elected as Chair. Adam Smith was nominated for Vice Chair and was elected by acclimation. So was Angela Hartsock for Secretary.

President Miller in his remark mentioned the presence of Cindy Crotty from Board of Trustees attending the meeting. She is the Chair of Audit Committee of BOT. He congratulated the newly elected presidents of GSG and USG. He said he is excited about commencement that would start the next day and thanked participating faculty. He talked about hiring Charles Guthrie the new Athletic director. He said the committee worked hard to find someone who shares our view about athletics and its relation to academic programming. He said he has worked with him before in the same environment. He said Social Justice Taskforce has published their report. The task was to take a hard look at our processes and to look at our own house first and start to work on that as we move to look out to be partners in the community. He said some students have been vetted and names have been sent to Governor for one open seat of student trustees on the BOT. Governor does not have to pick from that list, but in the past he has. He said we are working with Summit County Board of Health on coming back to campus for work.

Provost Wiencek in his remark thanked newly elected and past officers of Faculty Senate, AAUP, GSG and USG. He said he is looking forward to commencement when people are meeting in small groups and without masks. Regarding enrollment he said freshmen class looks strong. He said scholarship and keeping tuition the same are helping. He said he is optimistic that the incoming class will be a good class and surpasses last year's size. He said we are working to get transfer numbers up. Regarding searches, he reported that College of Business brought well qualified finalists in and after discussions with deans and other constituencies and voice of the faculty we really did not find the candidates were a right fit. We will meet with the

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faculty in the College of Business to decide how we will move forward. He said we have one in mind for interim dean. He said other searches would be starting soon. Vice President for research is one, Vice Provost is another one. He said we would ask FS and UC for populating the committees. He said reorganization of OAA minimizes the number of Associate provosts. He said he has received a copy of University Planning Group for a short-term plan and move into a long-term process involving UC. The focus is on our contingency plans over next two months to return to campus with smaller spacing in classrooms and need to be ready if we feel the situation is not safe, and then we move some of those to 6 feet or hybrid mode. Goal is to put options in front of faculty and be ready to move quickly in July or August.

In Committee reports, APC brought a motion to the floor regarding adding to the bulletin that 2/3 of credits for all certificates must be completed at the UA. Motion passed without dissent. CCTC brought a resolution to the floor that requested the University to renew the surveying software Qualtrix. The resolution passed without dissent. CRC brought 54 course proposals and 15 program proposals to the floor for approval that passed without dissent. University Library Committee submitted a written report. COVID Child Care Committee sought for feedback and ideas. Interdisciplinary Council submitted written reports of steps taken for past few years. GEAC submitted an informational report. AAUP representative said they have posted the MOU on AAUP website. Graduate Council representative reminded senators to read Graduate Faculty Report that is distributed. GSG representative (Frey) asked senators to let her know if any grad student from Colleges of Business, Engineering or Health professions is interested to serve in GSG. USG representative (Kasunic) reported that all elected members are sworn in and are on board. University Council representative said he has not much to report from UC that you have not heard.

Ali noted that the May 6th meeting was the last meeting of the term. Faculty Senate meetings will resume in the Fall term, first Thursdays, beginning in September.

F. University & Community Service/Website. Rita reported on behalf of Dan Sheffer that the website is up to date. He and Mel Vye are working on updating the membership brochure.

G. Scholarship. Chairman Tim Lillie, Dan Sheffer reporting on his behalf. The names of students who have applied for scholarships have been requested from the Office of Student Financial Aid. The names have not been received as of yet nor the dollar amount available for distribution from the AUAR Scholarship account. Dan will facilitate communication with the committee when it becomes available.

H. Newsletter. Editor Martha Vye said interviewees for the upcoming newsletter have been identified. Judy Lasher has a collection of all the photos Ed Lasher has taken for AUAR since its inception and will turn them over to the organization. Jo Ann Collier will be the courier for the materials from Judy. They will be reviewed initially by Martha and Jo Ann to determine the contents and then more board members will be asked to review materials, perhaps identify people, and so on. It is anticipated that the materials will become part of the materials held by the university archives in the Polsky building.

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VII. Old Business. None

VIII. New Business. Rita asked if the group would be willing to hold the next scheduled board meeting June 24, 2021 in-person off campus at an agreed upon location. The June meeting is when photos of board members are taken and where the outgoing president is presented with acknowledgment of the services he or she provided and the baton of leadership is officially passed. Also, incoming board members are invited to attend. After some discussion it was agreed that Rita would investigate the feasibility of using the usual on-campus location since it offers wi-fi for computers for any members who would need to attend remotely.

IX. Good of the Order

Jo Ann Collier said that President Miller is making a virtual presentation at the Akron Roundtable at noon today which is free and does not require advance registration. The website for details is www.akronroundtable.org. The topic relates to the future of the urban university in a post-pandemic environment.

X. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Jo Ann Collier, Recording Secretary

Next meeting will be June 24, 2021 at 10:00am via Zoom (unless in-person arranged) Photos of the 2021-2022 board will be taken