

**Minutes of the UMRA Board of Directors
Campus Club, Oct 24, 2017
Judith Garrard, Secretary**

Members present: Carl Adams, Steve Benson, Judy Garrard, Cathy Lee Gierke, Cherie Hamilton, Jeanne Markell, Kathy O'Brien, Claudia Parliament, Chip Peterson, Donna Peterson, Dick Poppele, Jerry Rinehart, Gloria Williams

Members absent: Vern Cardwell, Will Craig, Judy Leahy Grimes, John Howe

Guests present: Ginny Hanson (Newsletter Coordinator, Ed), Jean Kinsey (co-chair Council of Past Presidents), Ben Zimmerman (Luncheon Committee chair and Rep to Campus Club), Terry Roe (Rep to Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs -- SCFA)

The meeting came to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Adopt or Modify Agenda

Item 9(a) was introduced to the Agenda. With no further modifications, the agenda was adopted.

2. September Board Minutes (Attachment 2)

Minutes adopted by Board.

3. Introductions

All present introduced themselves.

4. Miscellaneous updates – Chip Peterson (Attachment 4)

- a. Operating Manual (OM) or changes – See Jerry Rinehart's report on MGS in #5 below
- b. Progress on filing positions
 - Research Committee, MGS – Chip announced that there is a vacancy as the UMRA rep on the Minnesota Gerontological Society Research Committee. He will make this announcement at the Oct luncheon and also in the Nov Newsletter.
 - Rep to the Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs – The position has been filled by Terry Roe, Professor Emeritus of Applied Economics, who was present and introduced to the UMRA Board.
 - Discount Coordinator – The position has not yet been filled.
- c. Financial/legal Issues SIG – The new SIG is now up and running.
- d. Submission of UMRA Documents to U Archives – Chip announced that the Secretary (Judy Garrard) will keep each Board meeting's packet of materials for inclusion in the UMRA contribution to the Archives at the end of the 2017-2018 year.
- e. New Member Orientation – Chip announced that the Board would adjourn early (10:15 am) in order for all to attend the New Member Orientation in the Lounge of the CC Bar.
- f. UMRA "Town Hall" -- Chip reminded the Board that in lieu of the usual speaker at the luncheon today, UMRA will hold a Town Hall for the members to address 3-4 questions about the future of UMRA. Jeanne Markell will moderate this session and Bill Donohue will be the recorder. Chip asked that members of the Board distribute themselves at different tables and help as recorders/reporters of table discussions if needed.

5. Follow-up to MGS (Minnesota Gerontological Society) presentation to the September Board Meeting (Attachment 5 from Earl Nolting UMRA rep to the MGS Education Committee)

- Jerry Rinehart reported that two UMRA representatives to MGS Board (Education and Research) were needed. Earl Notling has volunteered to be the UMRA representative for

Education on an interim basis. A second UMRA member is needed for the Research position. Chip will announce this opportunity at the luncheon.

- The discussion focused on the opportunities in partnership with MGS and overlap in offerings between UMRA and MGS. Notices in the UMRA newsletter will post these opportunities.

6. Treasurer's Report – Carl Adams (Attachments 6a and 6b from Carl Adams, Treasurer)

- a. Annual financial report (Attachments 7a) and September Financial Activity (Attachment 7b)
 - Carl Adams drew the Board's attention to the annual financial report for 2016–2017 and to the monthly report for September 2017. Income and expenses for 2016–17 were about the same as for 2015–16, and UMRA's financial situation is strong.
 - Kathy O'Brien asked whether UMRA has contributed to the Professional Development Grants Program to supplement the U's funding stream. Carl reported that UMRA does not subsidize that fund from the luncheon fund because it is hard to get a clear picture of current income/expenses on a monthly basis for the luncheon. The question was raised if there should be a discussion about an increase for luncheons or dues. We will re-visit this issue in the spring when a clearer picture of finances is available. Motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the financial reports.
 - The Board approved the Executive Committee's recommendation that Carl be expected to submit interim financial reports only on a quarterly rather than the current monthly.

7. Committee Reports. All submitted written reports.

- a. *Membership Committee* (Attachments 7a1 & 7a2 from Virgil Larson, Membership Database Administrator)

Virgil reported that there are now 471 active members, which is a higher membership level than a year ago (444 members). The two attachments showed variations by type of membership over time.
- b. *Activities Committee* (Attachment 7b from Cherie Hamilton, Chair)

Cherie reported that in the Scotland vs. Ireland Scotch Tasting Event (\$55/person) on Nov 16 and the Wine Class (\$45/person) on Dec 13, UMRA had 1-2 tables each in reservations.
- c. *Grants Committee* (Attachment 7c from Dick Poppele, Chair)

Dick announced that a new submission process will be required of all UMRA members who submit a grant application this year (required of all internal UMN grant applications). The new process will be made available by the U via web, newsletter, and email for a start date of Oct 23. The funding set aside is \$45,000 and this is the 3rd of a 3 year commitment from the Office of the Provost.
- d. *Cares Committee* (Attachment 7d from Ron Anderson, Chair)

The committee's report reiterated its mission and outlined six activities for the year:

 1. Remembrance Task Group collects University obituary reports, supplemented by database information, and sympathy notes to UMRA members living in the Metro area and cards for members in Duluth. There are monthly reports for the newsletter.
 2. Workshop Subcommittee is developing up to 7 topics for presentation to UMRA as an after-luncheon workshop.
 3. Cares Survey & Needs Assessment Task Group is planning the activities implied by its name.
 4. Bookshelf Task Group is inviting UMRA members to submit reviews on books related to aging.
 5. Care Guides Program consists of 8 UMRA members who were trained by Bob Kane to help other UMRA members with caregiving and care-receiving strategies. With the death of Bob Kane, the activities have been suspended, but additional opportunities for these concerns have been identified and this Program is seeking additional ideas for increasing quality of life of retirees at the U.
 6. The committee is beginning to explore the feasibility of a rideshare project

- e. Website Update (Attachment 7e from Cathy Lee Gierke, Website Manager)
Cathy described current updates to website and locations on the website where different features can be found.
- 8. Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs (SCFA)** (Attachment 8 from Terry Roe, UMRA rep to SCFA)
Terry Roe presented a list of potential SCFA agenda items for the year. He also asked if UMRA can get a list of names of faculty retiring who check “yes” on the option for ‘willing to be contacted’ by UMRA? Donna Peterson said that most faculty/staff who check this box are likely to check ‘No’ because they do not know who/what UMRA is. This is an important source of information, but UMRA is not able (as yet) to obtain the information.
- 9. UMRA representatives at Big Ten and AROHE Meetings?** (Attachment 9 from Chip Peterson on behalf of the Executive Committee)
- a. Big Ten Conference for Retiree Organizations. This annual conference brings together representatives from UMRA-type organizations at Big Ten schools. Traditionally UMRA (unlike most schools) has sent only one representative, but the Executive Committee recommends sending two in the future, who normally would be the outgoing and incoming president. Those who had attended the meeting in the past in this capacity said it was very helpful, and having two representatives would foster greater continuity. Both representatives would benefit from the knowledge and perspectives the outgoing president will have gained at the previous year’s meeting.
- b. AROHE Conference. AROHE is the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education. An UMRA member is now on the AROHE Board of Directors (Cherie Hamilton). There is a conference every two years and a board retreat every year. The Executive Committee recommends funding her attendance at both
- After some discussion the Board approved funding of up to \$1,000 apiece for two UMRA representatives (usually the incoming and outgoing presidents) to attend the Big Ten conference annually, and up to \$1,000 for Cherie Hamilton, during her term as AROHE member, to attend the biennial AROHE conference and up to \$1,000 to attend the annual AROHE Board retreat. (Thus the total bill to UMRA would be up to \$2,000 in the AROHE conference year and \$1,000 in the off year.) In the future, when no UMRA member is on the AROHE board, the funding will revert to covering the traditional one UMRA representative to the biennial conference.
- 10. Council of Past Presidents of UMRA** (Attachment 10a from Jean Kinsey, Co-chair of Council).
Jean listed 7 issues the Council discussed, including finding a larger place or alternative for lunches, exploring setting up scholarships for students, drawing on the expertise of UMRA members who have been in the general counsel’s office to help us deal with legal/organizational, increasing the emphasis on quality of life of UMRA members in setting up more programs (with an emphasis on social activities and on the intellectual stimulation of good speakers), and possibly merging UMRA and URVC. Considerable discussion focused whether UMRA should be an inside U unit, seek 501c3 status, or remain as it is. This needs a small group of people to investigate the pros and cons of the various alternatives. Finally, the Council of Past Presidents said the UMRA website needs a more user-friendly and attractive design. This is also being discussed in the Communications Task Force.
- Pursuing Foundation Partnership** (Attachment 10b from Jerry Rinehart, President-Elect)
Jerry has been exploring two interrelated issues raised by the Council of Past Presidents consisting of the following questions: (1) whether UMRA is an “internal” unit in terms of renting on-campus space, and (2) whether UMRA can partner with an existing unit in the University (e.g., UM Foundation) to gain 501c3 status for our external fundraising efforts? These are complicated questions and Jerry’s report in Attachment 10b addresses some of the issues.
- 11. Additional reports from the floor or additional discussion on previous items**
None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.