

**Eastern Michigan University
Emeritus Faculty Association Executive Board Meeting
December 6, 2017**

Present: Irene Allen, Jean Bush-Bacelis, Richard Douglass, Dave Geherin, Gerald V. "Skip" Lawver, Sally McCracken, John Pappas, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

Ex officio: Susan Rink, Senior Director of Development of the Foundation, and Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation.

The meeting was at the Eagle's Nest at the Convocation Center and called to order at 9:06 a.m.

The minutes of the October 4, 2017, meeting were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- 1. Sally McCracken indicated that United Way has created a separate webpage for emeriti,** so that emeriti can donate and EMU is credited. Few emeriti have used it, and Sally will remind people in the next newsletter. The beginning date of the United Way fundraising has been changed. In order not to compete with other fundraisers, United Way now begins in January and not during the Fall term.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Webmaster update.** Sally McCracken and Bette Warren are entering the minutes and other information to the website as needed. Janet Campbell will do this after January 2018. Perhaps Wendy Kivi also will help at a later date. It is unclear how much emeriti or others rely on the website. A future survey about how to make the website most useful may be desirable.
- 2. Update from the Nominating Committee.** Sally was asked unanimously to contact Mary Zdrojkowski about serving on the Executive Board. Greg Peoples is interested in serving at a later date.
- 3. SilverSolutions** seems to consist of a number of NGOs which engage in hooking seniors up with work and volunteer activities. The group with which Sally McCracken and Richard Douglass met is a start-up in Chelsea. As of yet they cannot be helpful.
Some seniors need an economic boost, and some are looking for volunteer activities. An appropriate url could be posted on the website.
- 4. Needs assessment.** At a future time, the needs of emeriti should be assessed, so that we know how to be most useful to them. In order to make sure that the organization is as meaningful as possible, being aware of and dealing with complaints are especially important.
- 5. Review of the Fall Social.** People liked the food, location, table decorations, entertainment, availability of wine, and brevity of the EMU President Smith's address. Just a few people were unhappy about the entertainment or some other aspect of the gathering.

The Emeritus Board thanks the Foundation. Natalie LaDow organizes the event, and she does a splendid job.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. The schedule for 2018** was created and handed out by Sally McCracken. The Spring Social was unanimously approved for May 23rd if McKenny Ballroom is available. Otherwise it will be on the 16th.
- 2. Dr. Connie Ruhl-Smith is gathering names of people abroad who are associated with EMU.** She would like to create clubs abroad, so that people are in contact with each other and EMU. This is meant to enhance people's lives and also to serve as a route for fundraising.
- 3. Distributing responsibilities** to Executive Board members.
 - A.** The Vice President is responsible for ideas for presentations at General Meetings and organizing them. Perhaps this involves brainstorming sessions.
 - B.** The President attends Board of Regents' meetings.
 - C.** A member of the Emeritus Board acts as a liaison with Faculty Senate and EMU-AAUP. Currently Alida Westman does this.
 - D.** A member of the Emeritus Board acts as a liaison with the library. Currently Barbara Scheffer does this.
 - E.** Other positions will be created as necessary.
- 4. Ideas for Presentations at General Meetings.** Presentation A has been scheduled, and the others are suggestions.
 - A. At the Emeritus Spring Meeting,** Howard Booth will present "Lifetime exercises and why to do them."
 - B. Cooking healthy with gadgets,** such as an air fryer, is a topic of interest; however, it is not clear how best to bring this about, because the new cooking kitchen only holds 40 people. Susan Rink will check possibilities.
 - C. Haabs puts out lists of what to do in the area.** It was discussed whether we can use this list and give Haabs credit for it.
 - D. Emeriti are entitled by contract to tickets for sport events.** Irene Allen received General Admission tickets when she had received reserved seats for a decade. Sally McCracken and Dave Geherin investigated and found that policies had not changed. General Attendance tickets can be exchanged for reserved seat tickets by going to the Convocation Center.
 - E. Emeriti are entitled by contract to tickets for theater performances.** Due to cutbacks the Quirk Box Office is open only from noon to 5 p.m. during the week before a show. The Box Office also is open before a performance. The office closes after the last performance of a particular show, usually for about two weeks until the week before the next show.
 - F. Travel Information** is of interest to many emeriti. The *Eastern Magazine* has ads for trips by EMU Alumni, and these trips may be of interest. Also some faculty members organize trips, such as Marty Shichtman on Jewish Heritage in New York, and it may be possible to join their

trips. Information is requested about people knowledgeable about travel but without need to endorse a particular agency.

5. Starting time for meetings. The current starting time of 9 a.m. means that people have to come through rush hour traffic, and some prefer not to get up this early. A starting time of 10 a.m. was approved.

6. EMU President Smith has asked how else he can reach out to emeriti. Social events and food tend to be the most popular. Perhaps a gathering between the Spring and the Fall Social is appropriate. Sally welcomes ideas about this, and if another social is desirable, when should it be held?

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

The next meeting will be at 10 a.m. on March 7, 2018, at the Eagle's Nest at the Convocation Center.