

Eastern Michigan University
Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association Executive Board Meeting
March 2, 2022

Present: Jean Bush-Bacelis, Richard Douglass, David Gherin, Gerald V. "Skip" Lawver, Sally McCracken, Gregory Peoples, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

Ex officio: Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation and Jill Hunsberger, Associate Vice President for Advancement

The meeting was by Zoom and called to order at 10:02 a.m.

The minutes of December 1, 2021, were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hacking. Sally McCracken reported that apparently Bert Greene had been hacked and his email list used. A number of people received an email from him requesting money. His email address had been changed by adding an "e," so that replies would go back to the hacker and not Bert. Hacking is more frequent these days. Please be alert to them. Never hesitate to ask whether the email is real using your own email address or phone number for the person.

Remembrances. EMU's Foundation tries to keep track of deceased emeriti, but HR has no complete listing. HR should let the Foundation know when a relative claims the death benefit which EMU has in escrow for each emeritus member.

Sally will ask the emeriti to let her know when someone has died, so that they can be remembered. Many emeriti read the remembrances. Further, with respectful treatment may come the desire by the beneficiaries to remember EMU in the name of the deceased emeritus person. We frequently see "In lieu of flowers, please send a contribution to ____."

Sally will go over the emeritus listing with Jean Bush-Bacelis to correct the listing. Many emeriti use email addresses which are not emich.edu addresses. Further, some emeriti are misclassified, perhaps because they are still working.

OLD BUSINESS

Parking. Many emeriti assumed that the registration of their cars occurred after following the registration procedure, and they did not know that the process had failed because they did not wait for verification. Waiting for verification is critical. Also, many emeriti are confused about the card to use to leave a pay lot. It is the thicker of the two cards and was sent out at a later date than the thinner one. If you wonder whether you have been registered or to deal with a ticket, it is best to contact LAZ directly at 734-217-4892 or via parkingemuhelp@LAZparking.com.

Update to emeriti. Sally will include parking information in an update to the emeriti, along with information about medigap reimbursement through HSA, information about the death benefit available at HR, and request to be informed when an emeritus member has died.

HSA. Emeriti who have United Healthcare Insurance through AARP can download their payments made for premiums from the website. Blue Cross/Blue Shield - Blue Care Network does not have such a website listing, and labeled line item statements from a checking account are insufficient proof for HSA. Alida Westman has been in contact with Jessica Sakac of HSA and Blue Cross/Blue Shield – Bue Care Network to find ways to indicate that the request for reimbursement is not fraudulent in a way that is acceptable to HSA. Specifically, a copy of a bill with a copy of the check used to pay the bill has been found to be successful. For people using automatic deductions or payments, BC/BS - BCN can send out duplicate bills which indicate that they are for information only if the payments are made automatically. BCN also sends out an annual letter which indicates the cost of the premium for the coming year. In addition, they also have an automated phone service which indicates the date and amount of premium paid.

Upon discussion it was decided that Alida should continue to find a procedure with automatic payments which is acceptable to HSA. If successful this will be shared in an update to the emeriti by Sally. If not successful, the matter will be forwarded to Jeff Angeliu in EMU's HR office to construct a procedure for the contractually established reimbursement.

New Business

Spring Social. After discussing possible tentative dates, June 2, 2022, was unanimously endorsed. Only music is planned for entertainment, so people have lots of time to socialize.

Spring Business Meeting. It is not clear which sufficiently large rooms are available. Sally will check on available rooms and dates. Then she will check with the executive board for a decision.

Replacement for David Gherin. Sally also will look for a replacement for David Gherin who continued to serve due to the pandemic and who would like to retire from the board.

Committee Report

Foundation. Jill Hunsberger reported that fundraising has gone better than expected. "Giving Tuesday" worked well. However, giving by emeriti has slumped.

Howard Booth suggested that alumni could invite emeriti to their meetings. Sally indicated that she can send out an invitation and whomever wants to join can do so; however, for this a coordinator is needed and currently support staff is lacking. Howard also suggested that E-scovery might be used to present programs for emeriti and emeriti can be Zoom connected.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be by Zoom on April 13, 2022, at 10 a.m.