

Eastern Michigan University
Emeritus Faculty and Staff Association Executive Board Meeting
November 13, 2024

Present: Jean Bush-Bacelis, Larry Gates, Gerald V. "Skip" Lawver, Sally McCracken, Glenna Frank Miller, Gregory Peoples, Barbara Scheffer, and Alida Westman.

Ex officio: Howard Booth, Emeritus Faculty Representative to the Foundation, Rae Ann Yuskowatz, Director of Planned and Legacy Giving at the Foundation, and Lorraine Walsh, Executive Assistant to the Provost.

The meeting was in the Eagles Nest and called to order at 10:04 am.

The minutes of October 2, 2024, were approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- A. Sally McCracken reported that the Emeritus Listserve** has been moved to Atari. She has delayed sending emails to test the list because of the large number of emails people received during the November 2024 Election and during the holidays. She will wait until January or February to send out the test emails.
- B. Sally will go with Larry Gates, a golfer, to the Eagles Crest** to make sure that emeriti are included in the cheaper membership rates. Currently there is a "corporate membership" which provides students, staff, and faculty with a lower membership price; it is \$600 which is half of a regular membership fee.
- C. Sally reported that the Board of Regents' search for a new EMU president** is a Closed Search in which only the last three or perhaps just the chosen person will be presented to the campus. The Board would like to have an Advisory Committee as small as possible; it will be composed of half the Board of Regents' members, representatives of the donor class, faculty, staff, and a representative of student government. Sally shared a letter she wrote to the chair of the Board of Regents, Chad Newton, to request that there be representation of the emeriti also. A Search Firm will be hired to help in the search.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. The October 11 Business Meeting** was very successful. Discussion revealed that the success was due to the meeting being briefer and a presentation topic people found interesting.
- B. The December 6 Social** will involve a nondenominational music program by a campus choir. EMU President Smith will speak briefly. Beyond this the goal is to have a nice meal and enjoyable socialization. Sally McCracken will remind people to register and invite others.
- C. Programming Committee Co-Chairs Jean Bush-Bacelis and Glenna Frank Miller** presented suggestions for programs. People were impressed by the number and quality of the suggestions and found them inspirational. They pointed to AI Chatbots which Dr. Bernstein can present, a talk on historical restoration programs at EMU, presentations

and/or activities by special interest groups, and perhaps a visit to Fish Lake, the Parson's Center in Traverse City, and other campuses with overnight stays.

- D. Two New Executive board members** are needed to replace Alida Westman and Sally McCracken. Suggestions will be discussed at the next meeting. Barbara Scheffer is willing to take over the secretarial duties.
- E. The suggested changes in the bylaws** were approved with minor modification for presentation at the Faculty and Staff Emeritus Association 2025 Spring Business Meeting. Specifically, (a) the period at the end of 3.6 should not be deleted; (b) in proposed 3.7, "may serve, if willing," is replaced by "is encouraged to serve"; (c) in proposed 4.2, "is normally expected to be willing to" is replaced by "is encouraged to"; (d) in the second line of new 7.1 and 9.1, "of the association" is added after "members."

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Barbara Scheffer suggested** that Deans and Associate Deans of Colleges with their significant others be invited to Emeritus Socials to increase interactions. After discussion of the numbers of additional people who would come to the Social, it was suggested that just the deans with their significant others be invited to the December 6 Social.
- B. Lorraine Walsh will explore** which places are available for the 2025 Spring Business Meeting. Ideally the Business Meeting takes place before the Social.
- C. Explore ways to support emeriti.** For example, some may need a ride to Business Meetings or Socials. Some would appreciate a call or visit while in a nursing home.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Rae Anne Yuskowatz** reported that EMU Today TV featured the EMU Foundation. It included a message from Maher Salah, VP for Advancement and Executive Director for the EMU Foundation, highlighted Foundation Trustee and alumna Molly Luempert-Coy, Professor Anita Rich, and alumna and scholarship recipient Kate Inman.
- B.** Rae Anne requested that people participate and encourage others to participate in Giving True to EMU by December 3; the Foundation hopes that 1000 people participate. An update will be provided at the Social.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be at 10 am on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at the Eagles Nest at the George Gervin Game Above Center.