

SUAA SIUE CHAPTER BOARD MEETING
November 30, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order in Room 3117 Founders Hall at 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Jennetten, Jo Gibson, Norris Manning, David Steinberg, Susan Yager, David Ault, Lynn Heidinger-Brown, Nobby Emmanuel, Deanna Taylor

SECRETARY REPORT

None. We dispensed with the review of the prior meeting minutes.

TREASURER REPORT

The treasurer reported a balance of \$777.00 in the SIUE Credit Union Checking Account and a balance of \$6388.42 in the SIUE account.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The first item Jo Gibson and the Membership Committee covered was to acknowledge the work and support that Anne Hunter put into the creation and updates of our SUAA Chapter website. Anne has resigned as a Board Member and will be greatly missed. As an act of appreciation for all of the work she has done a motion was made by Nobby Emmanuel and seconded by Susan Yager to contribute \$100 to the University Staff Senate Scholarship in Anne Hunter's name. The motion passed.

The next item discussed was a replacement for Anne. It was decided to contact Mike Pulley to see if he would know of an individual that would take on the website updates. This individual must be a current employee on campus. The updates normally take about a half hour or less each month. Susan Yager agreed to help the new individual in the transition with any information she has to make the job easier.

Jo Gibson reported that the membership numbers are about the same as they were last year. She noted that the Membership Reports from the state office are still not coming in a timely fashion; however, she hopes for improvement when they install their new software.

Jo has been updating the email addresses in our system and giving them to the State office so the members will receive current information. We still have a significant number of members who do not have their email addresses on file with SUAA which means they are not getting regular updates.

Jo is looking for ideas on ways to increase the membership of current employees. She suggested that we have a speaker such as SUAA attorney John Carr who spoke at the NIU chapter regarding pensions. We could plan an event for possibly January or February and enlist the help of the Faculty and Staff Senate to promote it. This will be discussed again at our next meeting. John Jennetten will send the recruitment pages developed by the SUAA Membership Committee to current employees entitled "How Does SUAA Help the Tier I SURS Member?", "How Does SUAA Help the Tier II SURS Member?" and "How Does SUAA Help the Self-Managed Plan (SMP) SURS Member?" through a campus announcement or email. It was also suggested to give the current employees information to determine which SURS plan they have chosen. This could also be distributed by email to the retirees via the Retiree Listserve. Copies of the recruitment sheets will also be distributed at the upcoming Chapter Meeting.

The New Employee Orientations, now named SIUE101: New Employee Training is still being presented by the Offices of Human Resources. We are allowed to hand out our materials and give the new employees information concerning SUAA membership and its advantages.

The membership totals at the SUAA State Office have decreased. Mike Pulley has been in contact with the office concerning its new software MemberClicks. This program may help with monthly deductions for current employees which may help increase active employee membership.

OLD BUSINESS

John Jennetten, Jo Gibson, Nobby Emmanuel, David Steinberg and Mike Pulley attended the SUAA Fall Meeting. The atmosphere has improved at the meetings. The procedures manual, the legislative platform and the budget passed. The afternoon speaker was Rep. Rodney Davis. The topic was Rep. Davis's sponsorship of legislation to reduce or remove the negative impact of the government pension offset and WEP provisions in current Social Security program. These provisions negatively impact retirees (and survivors) receiving both Social Security and other governmental pensions. Those attending thought it was a very good meeting. John will send the 2017 Legislative Platform to the Retiree Listserve and Jo will send the document via email to our current members.

NEW BUSINESS

Our next SIUE SUAA Chapter Meeting is planned for December 6, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. at Birger Hall. The welcome will be given by Chancellor Randall Pembroke. President Randy Dunn may stop by if he is available. The speaker will be Senator Bill Haine. We will have a registration desk before the event and hope to get new and updated emails of our members. John noted that we could not get a room on campus as we did not receive the date of the Holiday Party early enough to book one. We always try to coordinate our Chapter meeting with the SIUE Holiday Party. John Jennetten will contact Karen Kaufman in the Chancellor's Office to see if we could be added to a list for next year to receive information as soon as it becomes available. In a related topic, Nobby Emmanuel volunteered to deliver membership information and brochures to Secretary Karen Kaufman to solicit Chancellor Pembroke's membership in SUAA.

The SUAA Foundation Emergency Fund was discussed. The Foundation offers monetary assistance to individuals who have been members of SUAA for 5 years should they have an emergency or hardship. There is an application process that goes through the local Chapter and then to the State SUAA office. There must be a contact person appointed from the local Chapter. John is seeking a volunteer from the board to take on the project of implementation and publicity for the SIUE chapter. He will send out an email seeking a volunteer from the board.

There was a discussion on purchasing SIUE SUAA Chapter stationery and note cards. John and Jo will get quotes on having these items printed verses doing them ourselves on Avery materials. They will report their findings at the next meeting.

John Jennetten will email the Board members in advance by sending a Doodle request to schedule our next Chapter Board meeting in January or February. The reason for the advance notice by email is that some members reported their Doodle requests went to their Spam folders.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00.

Deanna Taylor
Secretary