UMKC RETIREES ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 6, 2013, 9:00-11:00, Gillham Park Room

Members Present: Pat Hovis-French, Mary Anne Morgenegg, Reaner Shannon, Ron MacQuarrie, Ted Sheldon, Marvin Querry, Denny Schemmel, Leo Sweeney, Dale Neuman, Jennifer Martin, Linda Edwards, Charles Volk, John Ditto, Kim Rudolph, Rita Messina

Members Absent: Jane Vogl, Nancy Mills, Merton Shatzkin

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am

Announcements: President Hovis-French gave a recap of the 80th Anniversary Celebration and Founders Week activities. The Regalia Run was held and the first of the Ron MacQuarrie scholarships, a beneficiary of the run, will be awarded next year through the School of Graduate Studies. Approximately 70 people attended the reception in the Miller Nichols Library, about 45 people attended the Leadership Breakfast, and a good representation of retirees attended the resigning of the Charter. Approximately 60 people attended a reception and program held at Diastole featuring the poetry and music of Dan and JoAnn Jaffe.

Holiday solicitation on behalf of the Women’s Club for scholarship donations will be sent in early November. The letter goes out to all retirees and all current faculty/staff members. This annual donation request usually generates about $5000.

Dee Evans was introduced as the UMKCRA liaison with the Office of Advancement. Kim will still be involved with the newsletter and Dee will deal with other issues. The division of labor is somewhat uncertain at present, but since Kim and Dee have adjacent offices, anything sent to one of them that should go to the other can be worked out between them.

Minutes of the August 14, 2013 Board Meeting had been circulated previously by email. At the meeting, paper copies of the minutes were distributed to all those present and were approved (Sheldon/Schemmel).

Committee Reports

Treasurer’s Report – Ted Sheldon, Treasurer
Ted distributed a written report. The report included the balance sheet, income, and expense accounts as of September 30, 2013. He reported that the annualized rate of return on the Investment Account is 8.2%.

Ted reported that membership dues revenue is still running low and that the Operating Account balance is considerably less than during the same period in 2012. He asked if any consideration has gone into deciding what kind of organization the UMKC Retirees Association should be: A membership dues paying organization or a non-dues paying group, such as the
Alumni Association. A task force had been put together for this purpose with Mary Anne Morgenegg, Merton Shatzkin, Ron MacQuarrie, Linda Edwards, Leo Sweeney, and Dick Hetherington. Ron agreed to chair the committee and expects to have a draft or outline by January 2014. Ted requested that he receive a copy of the draft so he can produce alternative budgets for the coming year.

Regarding the UMKCRA Scholarship account, one-half of the $5,000 pledged amount was transferred in September; the remaining $2,500 transfer has not yet been made. Dale commented he believed that originally the $5,000 from UMKCRA was to be seed money to stimulate contributions and was designed to match amounts donated to the fund by others. It was suggested that the minutes from the February 2013 Board Meeting be checked for the discussion and motion that was originally made. Since Ted does not have access to the UMKCRA scholarship account, Dee Evans will report on the balance at the next meeting.

The Treasurer’s report was accepted (Morgenegg/MacQuarrie).

**Finance Committee – Ted Sheldon, Chair**
No written report.

**Benefits Committee – Ron MacQuarrie, Chair**
No written report. Ron stated that a representative from the UM System has been invited to talk about benefits at an open meeting on campus on November 12th at 9:00 am. At present, 36 people have responded. He will report on the outcome at the next board meeting.

**Communications Committee – Dale Neuman, Chair**
A written report was distributed. The committee did not meet but exchanged emails regarding issues that exist related to the UMKCRA website. Dale commented on the difficulty in keeping items current on the website and wondered how much UMKCRA wants to invest in trying to keep the website current or whether the association might want to redefine the site as an archive for newsletters and the constitution. He is unsure how effective it is as a news reporting and interactive site. If the consensus is to continue with the site as it is, we would need to discuss this with Advancement so updating can be done in a timely manner. Dale suggested that the UMKCRA website be an agenda item at a board meeting in the future. Discussion followed and a suggestion was made to poll retirees at the Holiday Luncheon regarding how often retirees visit the UMKCRA website, whether they use Facebook, and if they would prefer to find UMKCRA information on Facebook. The Communication Committee will have a survey ready for the Holiday Luncheon. Dale will contact Jane Vogl regarding this issue since she is web manager.

**Membership Committee – Leo Sweeney, Chair**
No written report. Leo stated he is awaiting the outcome of the task force. He reported that current efforts are being made to recoup recent staff and faculty retirees as members.
Program Committee – John Ditto, Chair
No written report. John reported on the success of the Dan and JoAnn Jaffe program of poetry and music. He stated that the Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, December 7th, in Pierson Auditorium, where a guitarist will play during the cocktail hour. The program committee will meet in a few days to decide on entertainment following the luncheon and business meeting.

It was also mentioned that Merton Shatzkin wrote a series of five pieces written in conjunction with the Jaffe program that premiered the same evening. These pieces are apparently part of a mini-opera that Merton is writing.

Nominations Committee – Denny Schemmel, Chair
A written report was submitted. Denny presented the list of candidates for the UMKCRA Board that were previously approved at the August 2013 board meeting. A recap of those individuals is as follows: Lora Lacy-Haun for President-Elect; Ted Sheldon for Treasurer; Merton Shatzkin, Bob Piepho, and Brenda Faskin for three-year term board members. Nominee biographies for new board members were listed in the August newsletter. The slate will be voted on at the Holiday Luncheon and Board Meeting.

Recognition Committee – Denny Schemmel, Chair
A written report was submitted. Denny reported that the Recognitions Committee met to work toward nominating eligible faculty and staff retirees for the UMKCRA Recognition Award. The committee identified G. Ross Stephens, Professor Emeritus, retired from the Department of Political Science, as a worthy candidate. A motion made by Schemmel to accept Dr. Stephens as a recipient of the UMKCRA recognition Award was seconded by Ditto and approved by the Board. Denny anticipates the nomination of a staff retiree before the December 2nd deadline. The award(s) will be given at the April luncheon. It was suggested that no other entertainment need be offered beyond a presentation by the recipient.

Volunteer Committee – Reaner Shannon, Chair
A written report was submitted. Reaner stated she hopes to find members to help with her committee. She reported that currently there is a volunteer opportunity, the “Home for the Holidays” program sponsored by the Alumni Board and the Retirees Association. The dates for this opportunity are November 11, 2013 to January 11, 2014. The deadline to sign up to host an international student or students is November 8, 2013. Volunteers may contact the Alumni office online for an application.
Old Business

Emeritus College – Pat Hovis-French

Pat stated that she is part of the Emeritus College Board by virtue of being president of the Retirees Association. Pat stated there have been two meetings of the board and another meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2013. She stated that they are currently looking to fill the position of Associate Dean of the college. She expects the college to be able to move into the space on the second floor of Miller Nichols Library by March 2014.

New Business

UMKCRA Scholarship – Linda Edwards

Linda was asked at the last meeting to develop criteria for the awarding of the UMKCRA scholarship. She proposed that since the scholarship is funded by the Retirees Association, the focus could be directed toward academic disciplines that deal with aging. The award could be given to either graduate or undergraduate students pursuing education in areas dealing with aging. At UMKC, a minor in the field of Gerontology is offered for undergraduates and a graduate certificate in Gerontology is offered at the MA and PhD level. A list of departments composed by the Consortium On Aging was supplied. Linda suggested using an application process similar to that used by the Graduate Assistance Program. She also suggested that UMKCRA members could serve on an awards committee, along with a faculty member from the Center on Aging Studies. Linda Edwards made a motion to accept the proposal, John Ditto seconded. The proposal was accepted by the board.

Other Business

UM Newsletter – Pat Hovis-French

Melanie Barger plans to send a UM System quarterly newsletter to all retirees that will be tailored to each campus. The newsletter will include a message from President Wolfe, UM System news, HR announcements and deadlines, and campus specific news. This will be sent totally by email and will be in addition to our own newsletter. This newsletter is to go to all retirees of the University of Missouri. Melanie needs our information by January 5, 2014 for the UM January newsletter. The UM System will do member email updates if we send them our full membership list and emails and they will compare these with their master list. They will also do an annual membership solicitation for us. Additionally, they will send a targeted membership email to all campus specific retirees, one time only.
Leadership Meeting – Mary Anne Morgenegg

On October 16, 2013, Mary Anne Morgenegg, Pat Hovis-French, and Ron MacQuarrie traveled to Columbia to meet with the Retiree Board. They met with Rose Porter, the retiree representative on the task force about “Total Rewards” for retiree health insurance. If a retiree has enough retirement income to absorb higher premiums, they belong to “Total Rewards”. If a retiree is unable to absorb the higher premiums, they are on a secondary plan for obtaining health insurance called “My Retirement”. Rose is on the committee that makes recommendations to the Board of Curators.

At the meeting, President Wolfe talked about HB 253, the bill that was not overturned by the Legislature. However, President Wolfe expects this issue to return each year and spends much of his time in rural areas talking about the University and hopes this will help the University improve its brand.

Calendar Year – Pat Hovis-French

Pat talked about the issue of whether UMKCRA should remain with a calendar year schedule versus a fiscal year schedule. She said that some other retiree organizations (Rolla, for instance) change officers to stay with the academic year. Pat stated that a few years ago UMKCRA changed from handing over the gavel in the spring to the current schedule of passing the gavel in December, and isn’t sure why that happened. The University’s fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30 but UMKCRA follows the calendar year, creating accounting complexities. Pat wondered if there would be any value in changing the UMKCRA schedule to match the University academically. Pat added that such a change need not affect the Officers’ term of office. Changing the timing of the election of Officers would need to be made in the UMKCRA By-laws. Changing the fiscal timing could be done with a vote by the UMKCRA Board. Discussion can continue at the February 5th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 am (Martin/Ditto).

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Messina
UMKCRA Secretary