

**STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION**  
**UIUC Chapter Executive Committee**  
**Clark-Lindsey, Simon Dining Room**  
**<http://www.suaa-ui.org>**  
**Minutes for October 9, 2013**

**Attending:** Mary Beastall, Gerald Brighton, Tom Conry, Paul Dollins, Gary Engelgau, Athalia Hunt, Jane Loeb, Mark Netter, Terri Palumbo, Robert Rich, Steve Rugg, Terry Ruprecht, Rick Schoell, Ron Webbink, Bill Williamson

**I. President's Report**

- A. Call to Order by President Terry Ruprecht at 1:33 p.m.
- B. Approval of minutes for September 11, 2013 was moved and seconded; minutes approved.
- C. Review of schedule of meetings for rest of year:
  - (1) Exec Committee Meetings 2013: Nov 13, Dec 11. A January meeting is also likely.
  - (2) Fall General Meeting, Oct 20, 2013, I-Hotel
  - (3) SUAA Fall Directors' meeting, Oct 29, 2013, ISU
  - (4) SURS Retirement workshop, Oct 30, 2013
- D. President's Report – Terry Ruprecht reported on the SUAA Meeting at LLCC on October 3 2013. Linda Brookhart chaired. Local State representatives were present; Ralph Martire spoke. Some questions on the status of state health plans were addressed. Terry Ruprecht then discussed the need for a well-structured chapter meeting on October 20, with heavy attendance expected. He stressed the need to defer today's urgent health care discussion until after meeting plans were complete.

**II. Treasurer's Report:** Gerry Brighton indicated that newsletter costs are reflected in the report. These are larger than the usual fall newsletter costs because it was sent to all retirees, not just chapter members. Tom Conry moved and Rick Schoell seconded acceptance of the report; motion passed. Treasurer Brighton also raised for discussion disposition of financial records and reports back to 2001 that he currently possesses. Discussion elicited the suggestions that some hard copy could be stored at the Stock Pavilion, and that some could be scanned for electronic archives. Further discussion was deferred to a later meeting.

*NOTE: When purchasing anything where an invoice is sent to the UIUC-SUAA Chapter, please have it sent to Gerry Brighton's home address, so that the bill may be paid promptly.*

**III. Action Items**

- A. Fall general meeting, Oct 20, 2013, I-Hotel
  - 1. Check-in: Gary Engelgau noted that a membership list with e-mail addresses would identify non-members for distribution of membership forms, and would identify members for whom e-mail addresses are unknown in order to collect these addresses. Volunteers were identified to take notes for the website, work the tables, collect questions from attendees, screen questions for duplication, and read questions to speakers.
  - 2. Agenda: A brief business meeting, normally placed after speakers, will occur at the beginning, with the President's report. In it, he will set ground rules for the meeting. He will introduce Bob Rich as the first speaker, to review pension plan revisions that may be taken up in the veto session. Bob Rich will be followed by Janice Bonneville to review state health plans and then Rick Perry to provide general information about Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans. Terry Ruprecht indicated that Janice Bonneville also plans to bring staff to help answer questions.

3. Ways to structure the meeting in order to keep it moving productively consumed considerable discussion. It was decided to give attendees the list of questions that would already have been provided to the speakers, to offer 3X5 cards for other questions, and to ask participants to keep their questions general rather than dealing with personal circumstances. It was decided that Terry Ruprecht would explore with speakers their willingness to stay on after presentations to answer additional questions.

#### **IV. Reporting Items**

- A. Membership: Terry Palumbo reported chapter membership is down to 1994, with 3 new members, 4 non-renewals and 8 deaths.
- B. Legislative Committee/Political Action: Rick Schoell reported that the Conference Committee hasn't had a full meeting since July 7, so local legislators and others are still awaiting details of the expected senate/house compromise plan. Steve Rugg noted that 1% and 4% are being discussed as floor and ceiling for a COLA to cover half the CPI. Communications Committee: Engelgau indicated the newsletter is on schedule and should be delivered the first week in Oct. He thanked Terry Ruprecht for his review of it during production.
- C. Communications Committee: Gary Engelgau solicited volunteers to man the SUAA table at the Employee Expo.
- D. Fall Meeting Planning: Covered under Action.
- E. Newsletter: Gary Engelgau reported on a snafu, involving the requirement for "vendor ID", encountered in seeking reimbursement from UIUC for printing costs of the Charitable Contributions insert to the newsletter.
- F. Benefits Committee: Mary Beastall reported that Health Alliance offers both a Medicare Supplement (Medigap) policy and a Medicare Advantage plan on the open market, providing easy access to Carle services. She noted as well that purchase of a Medigap policy as "guaranteed insurable" requires a letter from CMS indicating our current insurance has become unavailable to us. She suggested that SUAA should lobby for a longer decision period for retirees, and questioned why SURS retirees might not be provided dental, vision, and drug coverage, which are part of the AFSCME contract. Terry Ruprecht indicated that the Medicare Advantage (MCA) plan offered by the State includes a small dental benefit. Bob Rich pointed out that the fact MCA is not administered by federal CMS is a nontrivial difference between MCA and traditional Medicare.

#### **V. New Business:** none undertaken

#### **VI. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.