

**STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION**  
**UIUC Chapter Executive Committee**  
**Clark-Lindsey, Simon Dining Room**  
**<http://www.suaa-ui.org>**  
**Minutes for March 8, 2017**

**Attending:** William Adams, Mary Beastall, Barbara Hartman, Kathleen Holden, Carol Livingstone, Jane Loeb, Penny Nigh, Robert Rich, Terry Ruprecht, Helen Satterthwaite, Rick Schoell, Sue Trippiedi, Ron Webbink, H. F. Williamson

**I. Call to Order and Introductions:** Hartman called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. She introduced new board members present.

**II. Approval of minutes for February 8, 2017.** Approval was moved and seconded (Rich, Ruprecht) and passed unanimously.

**III. Review of Schedule of Meetings**

- A. Executive Committee: The remaining meetings are on April 12, May 10, and June 14.
- B. The Retirement Planning Conference will be at the I-Hotel on Saturday, April 29.
- C. The Spring Chapter Meeting will be at the I-Hotel starting at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday April 30.
- D. Big 10 Retirees Association Conference at Purdue, August 25-27.

**IV. President's Report.** President Hartman reported that she had very much enjoyed a recent trip to Iceland sponsored by the SUAA state office. The state SUAA office receives \$100 for each traveler who signs up for travel through them.

**V. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Webbink presented the report of activity from January 1 through February 28, 2017. He noted a decline in dues receipts along with membership, although the dues for January and February are not yet reflected in the report. Acceptance of the report was moved, seconded, and passed.

*NOTE: When purchasing anything where an invoice is sent to the UIUC-SUAA Chapter, please have it sent to Ron Webbink at his office address: (Dept. of Astronomy), 1002 W Green, M/C 221, Urbana, IL 61801-3074.*

**VI. Action/Discussion Items**

**A. Spring Meeting Planning:** Holden reported that Chancellor Jones will speak on "Reflections on My First Year". She also reported that Barbara Wilson is willing to speak in the fall on the topic of differences between being an administrator at the campus and the University levels. Hartman added that Bob Rich will provide an "Update from Springfield" as part of the spring program. Trippiedi confirmed that there will be cookies served along with beverages during the meeting's social hour. Williamson volunteered to place a notice of the meeting in EWeek. Following discussion of further options for notices of the meeting, Hartman indicated she would check on whether the state SUAA office can send an email reminder of the meeting to chapter members with emails on record.

**B. Nominating Committee Report.** Ruprecht reported that the committee has completed the slate as follows: Carol Livingstone and Larry DeBrock have agreed to join the EC, and Robert Rich and Penny Nigh have agreed to continue. Approval of the slate was moved and seconded (Holden, Trippiedi), and passed.

## **VII. Reporting Items**

**Membership.** Penny Nigh reported a membership total of 1975 at the end of January, with 7 losses (one due to death) and 4 new or rejoined members. The state office has been unable to provide membership numbers since the end of November, when they reported a net decrease of 4, with membership then down to 1986. While these numbers aren't quite in sync, they are in the same ballpark, and we await further word from the state office in the hope of clarification. In a discussion of the declining membership, Bill Williamson pointed out that people who opt to self-manage their retirement funds cannot use automatic deduction of SUAA dues. This will create a bigger problem with recruiting new members to the extent the self-managed numbers grow.

**B. Legislative Committee.** Rich reported that not much was new. He noted that even though the latest "reform" bill was defeated it will remain an issue. He suggested that we might not have a budget for the state until after the next Governor's election, and that paying State workers will remain an active battle. Schoell added that at the federal level, the proposed AHA would create major additional problems for Illinois through the proposed changes to Medicaid. He further reported that a recent Illinois higher education hearing revealed that some of the other state universities are beginning to eliminate programs, having already faced layoffs and non-replacements of staff.

**C. Communications.** No report.

**D. Benefits.** Mary Beastall noted that information from SURS on the provision of Survivor Benefits for members of Civil Unions and same sex marriages will be included in the upcoming newsletter. Williamson called attention to proposed legislation that would enable dentists to opt out of state contracts if not paid by Delta Dental within six months.

**VIII. New Business:** Webbink noted that Clark-Lindsey now charges \$30 for cookies at EC meetings, so he has cut down the number to 16. Mary Beastall noted that Mike Frerichs is speaking on the state budget at the upcoming Friday Forum. Bill Williamson noted that planning for next year's Big 10 meeting will accelerate, e.g., a contingent will need to go to the next meeting of the Big 10 retirees. Mary Beastall reminded that Kathy Kral will co-chair the planning committee, along with Barbara Hartman.

**IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting** The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 12, at 1:30 p.m. in the Clark-Lindsey Simon Dining Room.