

STATE UNIVERSITIES ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION
UIUC Chapter Executive Committee
Minutes for February 8, 2023
Web site: www.suaa-ui.org
Facebook Site: <https://www.facebook.com/SUAA.UIUC/>

Attendees: Melinda Carr, Bettina Francis, Tanya Gallagher, Debbie Kempfues, Carol Livingstone, John Marlin, Debora McCall, Deb Stone, Donald Uchtmann, Matthew Wilson

Other Attendees: Ron Webbink, H.F. Williamson

Guest: Bill Buesing, Vice President of UIUC Staff Advisory Council

I. Call to Order.

Since President Wilson was attending electronically, Vice President Marlin was asked to Chair the meeting and he called it to order at 1:32 pm.

II. Approval of minutes for January 11, 2023.

Livingstone moved to accept the minutes as written, Uchtmann seconded, and they were approved unanimously.

III. President's Update.

Wilson stated that he was looking forward to ideas on how to serve our membership better through our committees.

IV. Treasurer's Report.

Webbink provided a report covering activities for January and for the year 2023. The report reflected substantial movement of funds to Morgan Stanley, where they now earn 4-5%. Kempfues moved to accept the January report, Gallagher seconded, and it was approved unanimously.

V. Action/Discussion Items.

A. Staff Advisory Council Liaison Presentation

Bill Buesing, Vice President of the UIUC Staff Advisory Council, and represents around 6,000 civil service employees, attended today's Executive Committee meeting. Buesing would like to advocate for SUAA through bulletin board(s) and communicating important issues that SUAA's working on, such as health care. Buesing would like to have a SUAA officer come as a guest speaker to one of the Staff Advisory Council meetings. **ACTION:** Kempfues will send information to Bill Buesing for posting on bulletin board, as well as copy him on future agendas.

Buesing also noted that the Staff Advisory Council helps coordinate the All Staff Expo, which usually happens on an annual basis, but due to COVID has not happened for the past two years. Carr, Livingstone, and Williamson, who had staffed the SUAA booth at past expos thanked the organizers for including our chapter as one of the groups having a booth at the Expo. They felt this participation had been very effective in publicizing our activities and assume it would continue when the next expo was planned.

B. Retirement Planning Conference

Stone reported that the last in-person retirement planning conference took place in 2020. This year there will be several Zoom sessions, with hopes of going back to an in-person meeting in 2024. Marlin suggested that SUAA might provide a short recording to include in the Zoom sessions.

C. Committees Proposed Spending Plans and Ideas for 2022-2023

Kempfues reported that the Program Committee proposed a spending plan for the remainder of 2022-2023 of around \$1500. She noted a possible idea for 2023-2024 of holding lunch meetings retirement villages, such as Clark Lindsey, where there's a large population of retired UIUC faculty and staff.

Stone suggested we look at an outside professional firm to develop a market campaign to help promote SUAA.

This item will be added to next month's agenda.

- D. Update on Planning for Spring Chapter Meeting
The Executive Committee approved having the Spring meeting at Beckman Institute and having University Catering handle the reception. Kempfues will finalize the plans.
- E. Preparation of the Spring Annuitant
Livingstone provided assignments and a deadline of March 16 for submitting articles for the Spring Annuitant. AETNA will be the lead article and nominations for the Executive Committee member openings.
- F. Report from the Nominating Committee
Williamson and Korr are still looking for nominations for the two openings to be filled on the Executive Committee.

VI. Standing Committee Reports.

- A. Membership: Carr, Williamson (Chair)
Williamson provided the January membership report from the State Office, which had a net gain of seven members. He highly recommended that the Executive Committee look at lapsed members, and if you know anyone to contact them and see if they'd like to continue as members.

The Membership Campaign produced around 30-33 new memberships.
- B. Legislative Committee: Adams, Brewer (Chair), Korr, Marlin, Rugg, Schoell, Winkel
There are low level things going on in Springfield with health care. Marlin will be arranging a meeting with new senator, who replaced Senator Bennett.
- C. Communications Committee/Newsletter/Website: Brewer, Francis, Livingstone (Chair)
Livingstone provided a draft survey and options for distribution to the membership. It was suggested that we could distribute as a hybrid, including in the Annuitant along with a link option for members.
- D. Benefits Committee: Stone (Chair), Williamson
Nothing to report.
- E. Program Committee: Kempfues (Chair), McCall, Wilson
Nothing more to report.

VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports.

- A. Big 10 Retirement Association Committee: Francis, Williamson
Williamson noted that there had been a Zoom meeting of representatives of the Big 10 Retirement Association to start the planning for the 2023 meeting at Wisconsin.
- B. Long Range Planning Committee: Adams, Korr, Marlin, Williamson
Nothing to report.

VIII. New Business.

No new business.

IX. Adjournment and Next Meeting.

Marlin adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, March 8, 2023.

IMPORTANT DATES

- A. Executive Committee Meetings, Spring 2023: March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12 (if necessary)
- B. Spring Chapter Meeting – June 13, 2023 (Changed from May 15, 2023)
- C. Big 10 Retirement Association Annual Meeting, Madison, WI – July 26-28, 2023