



Macomb County Retirees Association

P.O. Box 46593 · Mount Clemens, MI 48046

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Health Department Auditorium, 43525 Elizabeth Rd, Mt. Clemens, MI

October 9, 2024

PRESENT: Wendy Fisher, Thomas Kalkofen, Norm Gilmore, Tracy Howard, Frank Taylor, Frank Krycia

CALL TO ORDER

President Wendy Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Tom Kalkofen requested an addition to the agenda under new business to discuss health care for retirees under age 65. A motion to approve the amended agenda made by Frank Krycia with support from Norm Gilmore was carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2024, Board meeting as distributed made by Tom Kalkofen with support from Frank Taylor was carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Wendy Fisher reported on the activities of the retirement Board. Various other items were reported by the President.

A motion to receive and file the President's report made by Tom Kalkofen with support from Frank Krycia was carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Gilmore provided a written report indicating there are 827 members in good standing as of the meeting date. Membership is near an all-time high. 31 new members joined in 2024. 275 members have already renewed dues for 2025 and most will renew in the 4th quarter.

Secretary Gilmore recommended to the Board to send renewal notices after December 1st to members. He is seeking to email those for whom we have email addresses and send a renewal slip with preaddressed envelopes to the rest. He has envelopes to donate and the cost including postage will be approximately \$0.85 per member (with donated envelopes; approximately \$1.01 at current postal rate in the future). Currently there are 110 members without email addresses that have not renewed, but that number should decrease with the publication of the next newsletter.

Similarly, Secretary Gilmore recommended to the Board to send renewal invitations to retirees whose memberships have lapsed prior to 2024. Email would be sent to those whom we have email addresses and renewal invitations mailed to the rest. There are 57 members from 2020 through 2023 that did not renew for whom we have no email address. Secretary Gilmore advised against going back to 2019 or earlier as the address information may not be accurate at this point.

Secretary Gilmore continued by reporting the web hosting plan through Turbify (Yahoo Small Business) was going to increase to \$322 per year. Upon calling technical support, our legacy web hosting plan was changed to a current plan offered at \$113 .87 per year. For \$135 per year, the web hosting plan can be upgraded to include WordPress support if desired in the future.

Discussion took place regarding including a tagline on the webpages banner under the organization's name. The final recommendation was to include under Macomb County Retirees Association... "Dedicated to being a proactive retiree advocate".

The deadline for material to be included in the November 2024 edition of the Retiree Connection newsletter is October 15th. There are currently 315 members receiving the newsletter by email. Some suggestions for articles in the newsletter included an advisory that signing up for any other Medicare Advantage plan disqualifies a retiree from participation in the Macomb County provided plan, a request for members to provide an email address, and information on the cost of the Medicare Advantage plan as a benefit to retirees.

Lastly, Secretary Gilmore reported that the annual State nonprofit corporations report was submitted on August 27 for a filing fee of \$20 and the post office box renewal will be billed on November 15. The rate is going to increase but has not yet been determined. In November 2023 the cost was \$166 for 12 months.

A motion to receive and file the Secretary's report with recommendations made by Frank Krycia with support from Frank Taylor was carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Tracy Howard provided a 3rd quarter 2024 financial report. The Retirees Association had an opening balance of \$18,594.15 and received income in the amount of \$3,375.00 with expenses incurred in the amount of \$6,118.14 (including \$4,370.16 for the annual luncheon) for a closing balance of \$15,851.01 as of September 30, 2024.

Treasurer Howard advised that the 23-month CD matured on Sept. 27th and funds were added to invest \$10,000.00 in a 9 month CD which already accrued \$5.43.

A motion to receive and file the Treasurer's report made by Norm Gilmore with support from Tom Kalkofen was carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

2024 Annual Member Luncheon Meeting (debriefing)

Discussion regarding the annual member luncheon meeting included very positive response regarding the use of the name tags. Also, the idea of offering some form of a 50/50 type raffle in the future was supported. A method of receiving members' dues by using envelopes was suggested to avoid having members waiting to pay. The feedback regarding the food was positive and the venue setup for the luncheon was appreciated by the Board and members.

Documentation of Roles, Responsibilities, Procedures and Policies

Frank Taylor presented the use of an Excel spreadsheet with tabs for each officer position and list of tasks within each. The spreadsheet represented the cumulative details of responsibilities identified by each of the officers. The use of Excel allows various tasks to be selected to show which officers are involved in the task. The Board recommended adding a tab for Director and Editor. Frank Taylor requested the Board to review the spreadsheet and highlight and changes so that he can incorporate them. The spreadsheet will be a living document that can be continually refined and changed as needed.

A motion was made by Frank Krycia with support from Tracy Howard to accept the use of the Excel spreadsheet and continue to develop it to document the responsibilities of the Board of Directors. The motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Director to fill Mary Solomon's term through 2026

The board discussed options for appointing a Director to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mary Solomon. Members came forward during the luncheon to indicate their willingness to volunteer were considered. The Board decided to run an article in the November newsletter seeking a new Director. The article should advise anyone interested in serving as a Director should submit their name to the Secretary and attend the January 8, 2025 Board meeting.

Health Care for Retirees Under age 65

A question was raised at the annual member luncheon regarding employees who retire after 2013 and their contributions healthcare. The perception is that employees under 65 that retire after 2013 pay a different copay amount than employees retiring prior to 2013. Vice President Tom Kalkofen offered to further investigate the healthcare situation for pre-Medicare retirees under 65.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting made by Tom Kalkofen with support from Frank Taylor was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

