

Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for November 21, 2016
Illinois State University Alumni Center
Normal, IL

Present: H. F. (Bill) Williamson (UIUC), Chair; Janice Nobbe (LLCC), Treasurer; Fred Barber (SWIC); Jan Cook (ISU); John Engstrom (NIU); Robert Lauersen (PC); Jerry Lewis (JJC); Alice Medenwald ((NEIU); Larry Alferink (ISU), SUAA President; Linda Brookhart (SUAA), Executive Director; Colleen Rock Ellis (GSU); Mary Pasing (KCC); Marcia Anderson (SIUC); Pat Eckert (SIUC); Judy Brown (WIU); Sally Field Mullan (COD); Bob Sobie (COD); Linda Harper (RCC); Marilyn Satterwhite (DACC)

I. Chair's Report

A. Call to Order and Introduction

The fall meeting of the SUAA Foundation Board of Directors was called to order at 9 a.m. by Foundation Chair H.F. (Bill) Williamson. Attendees introduced themselves. Williamson briefly reviewed the material in the printed Chair's Report that had been circulated. Since neither the Executive Director nor or her designee is available to serve as Secretary, Jan Cook's offer to serve as interim secretary was gratefully accepted.

B. Review of Minutes for June 21, 2016 Meeting. Williamson asked that the draft of the minutes previously circulated have the following text added under Section I, Chair's Report.

D. J. Nelson Young Legal Fund. The Chair circulated a report on the status of this Fund. The following motion was made and passed:

We propose that the assets currently in the J. Nelson young Legal Fund in the SUAA Foundation checking account be moved to the SUAA Legal Fund assuming that there are no tax implications for the Foundation. If there are, the proposal will be reconsidered at the fall meeting of the Board of Directors. If there are not, the transfer will be made and the SUAA Chapter Leaders will be informed of this decision.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made and seconded (Barber, Engstrom) and passed.

II. Treasurer's Report

Jan Nobbe distributed a Statement of Activities, Jan. 1 – Sept. 30, 2016. Pending the approved transfer of the funds from the D. J. Nelson Young Legal Fund to the SUAA Legal Fund, the net assets on Sept. 30, 2016 were \$115,359.01. The Treasurer and the Executive Director noted that, there being no tax issues raised by the previously-approved transfer of those funds, the transfer will proceed, leaving a net balance in the Foundation accounts of \$100,092.59. Donations this year are less than those of the same period last year. New formatting of the membership form will allow restoration of the line set aside for member donations to the Foundation. It is hoped that this will increase contributions in the future. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as distributed was made and seconded (Barber, Engstrom) and passed.

III. Action Items

A. Status of the Emergency Assistance Program

The program Brochure designed by the Subcommittee (Fred Barber, Jan Cook, Bob Radtke) and Debi Vaninger of the SUAA office is ready for distribution. Copies were given to those present. Upon completion of a cover letter, they will be sent to chapter presidents, secretaries and treasurers, with permission to duplicate them and distribute them to members as the chapter sees fit. Requests for Emergency Assistance will be reviewed by the previously named Review Committee consisting of Fred Barber Jan Cook, and Bob Radtke, with their recommendations forwarded to the Foundation Executive Committee for approval or disapproval. The committee will make regular reports at Foundation Board of Directors meetings.

B. Proposed Revisions in Bylaws. At next June's meeting of the Foundation Board of Directors, two revisions to be proposed will be:

1. **Article II, A, 4:** Deletion of the fourth purpose: "Assistance to SUAA State Office." Linda Brookhart has indicated that this should be removed.

2. Article IV, D. Changing the designation of the position of Secretary. Since the Executive Director or designee is no longer available to take the minutes, this section needs revision. If the Secretary becomes a voting member of the Executive Committee, should the Secretary be elected, as are the Chair and Vice Chair, or appointed, as is the Treasurer?

C. Report on the status of the J. Nelson Young Fund. As noted above, the transfer of these funds to the SUAA Legal Fund will be made as approved at the June 21, 2016 Foundation Directors meeting.

D. Review of Other Requests of Assistance from Foundation:

1. Education Campaign. A spending report was distributed on the grant made to SUAA in response to a request from the SUAA Executive Committee for \$20,000 to support a state-wide Education Campaign on issues affecting members. Two chapters also made donations: \$250.00 from WIU and \$90.00 from Heartland CC. Expenses were \$23,470.57. SUAA covered the \$3130.57 deficit.

2. Chapter Grants. SUAA President Alferink asked the Foundation in September whether the Foundation could offer grants to chapters to cover the expenses for their Directors to attend SUAA Directors meetings. Linda Brookhart has said that our 501(c)(3) status precludes such grants to chapters; grants may only be made to individual members.

3. Informational Meetings. Jan Cook offered a proposal intended to increase participation of chapter members in the Annual Directors' Meeting in June, 2017. She described a set of informational meetings held by the ISU Chapter several years ago at which pre-retirees were invited to a discussion with a Social Security official about the interactions between SURS benefits and Social Security benefits as they are affected by members' years of Social Security participation and those of their spouses, deceased spouses, and/or ex-spouses. The first session revealed so much variation in the answers to basic questions that three more meetings were called to allow other members to participate. She proposed that the Foundation sponsor a lunch at the end of the SUAA Business meeting, with a presentation by a Social Security official and follow-up questions by about 25 selected members on the point of retirement. She felt that this demonstration of the value of such informational sessions would show chapters a fresh way to serve their current members and recruit new ones, and would publicize the Foundation's continuing efforts to support chapter activities and membership growth. A motion was made, seconded, and passed asking Cook to collect a committee to study the proposal and report back to the Executive Committee in time for them to make a decision before the final program is drawn up for the June, 2017 Directors meeting.

4. Bond Study. Linda Brookhart asked the Foundation to consider a grant of \$6400 to obtain a report on the feasibility of a proposal that Illinois issue 50-year bonds to cover the state's unfunded pension liability. She distributed copies of a news article about such a move by the Italian government. Illinois has \$111B in debt for its pension systems now, which will be about \$130B by the end of the fiscal year. It was unclear who would conduct such a study. Further information will be gathered by the SUAA staff office and forwarded to the Foundation Executive Committee.

5. Procedures for Publicizing Foundation. There was a brief discussion of what other steps might be taken in addition to those already discussed.

E. Review of Foundation Section of SUAA Website. The website update is about complete. The final review will take place after the new web site is in place.

V. Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM