

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Draft Minutes for Monday, June 1, 2026, 10:00

Clara Studios, 2420 N Street

Officers	Present	Members at Large	Present
President, Deanna Hanson	X	Richard Atkinson	X
Vice President, Jackie Lamb	X	Kevin Collins	
Secretary Susan Brackenhoff	X	Marian Sheppard	X
Controller, Dave Ferguson	X	Janet Heath	X
Asst. Controller, Thom Gilbert	X	Mahnaz Khazari	X
Past President, Deborah Seiler	X	Bob Silva	x

Committee Chairs	Present		Present
Communications & Marketing: Richard Atkinson	X	Program Chair: Jackie Lamb	X
Finance & Administration: Dave Ferguson Asst. Controller Thom Gilbert	X X	Resource Development Chair: Mike Pidd	X
Forum Co-Chairs: Anne Rewell & Sigrid Bathen	X	Scholarship Chair: Sue McGinty	X
Volunteer Services Chair: Carol Barake	X	Nominating Chair: Norv Wellsfry	
Membership Co-Chairs: Susan Wheeler, Michael Blixt	X x	Tech Co-Chairs Kevin Collins, Tom Nelson	x

Liaisons/Guests	Present	Staff	Present
Dr. David Lang, Liaison			
Weekly Update/Constant Contact: Hollis Kulwin, Teri Stone, Loretta Burdeaux		Website: Teri Stone Facebook: Kathy Hart	
Recorder, Carolyn Monson	x	Office Manager: Amber Korb	x
Senior Clerk, Program/Catalog Coordinator: Lorene Sarne	x	Clerk: Sandy Ward	
Carol Stanford	x	Pam O'Brien	x

- **Call to Order** - President Deanna Hanson called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.
- **Approval of May 4, 2026, minutes** – Deborah moved to approve, seconded by Dave. Motion approved.
- **President's Welcome & Thank You** – Deanna expressed her thanks for her end of term gift and to all Board members who served this year. Dr. Lang is on vacation and not reporting this meeting, but he has kept RS informed and Board members have been sent information about Sac State staffing changes.
- **Reports**
 - **Secretary** - Susan Brackenhoff - No deaths were reported this month. During her term as secretary since July 2023, thirty-two members have passed away.

- **Controller** – Dave Ferguson – May financials: revenue \$240,000; expenditures \$143,000; cash balance \$273,000. MOU discussions are on-going. The RFP for catalog design was submitted. Vanessa Perez was awarded the two-year contract for \$7500 per year. The credit card gateway for payments being considered is Square. Jackie requested that spendable funds be reported separately from reserve funds.
- **Office Manager** – Amber Korb -Membership enrollment is open as of today. Senior Planet training has been approved. When the RS office was broken into, an older laptop and video camera were taken. Committee chairs should submit meeting times for the RS calendar.
- **Committee Reports by Committee Chairs and discussion:**
 - Scholarship – Sue McGinty was pleased to see the scholarship awardees highlighted in the Recorder. The scholarship committee needs a co-chair. See her report.
 - Forum – Anne Rewell emailed her report to Board members. The Fall Forum line up has “strong substance”. The committee looks for balance and diversity in speakers. Technology problems are consistent and highly concerning.
 - Program – Jackie Lamb – The new system of sign-ups for summer programs is going very well. The program leaders’ workshop was well done but not well attended. Revising program classifications is being considered. Dale Good is arranging a meeting with city officials to discuss possible community center classroom space that has technology available. If RS uses Eskaton, their residents will need help with RS registration.
 - Resource Development – Mike Pidd reminded all that the major donor party will be at Sue M. and the gathering for signing thank you letters will be at Deanna’s house as soon as the Advancement office provides the final list of contributors.
 - Communications & Marketing – Rick Atkinson discussed the priority system and approval process for information placed in the Weekly Update. The question was raised about who has the final approval of content. Carol Stanford suggested having guidelines for the Weekly Update content. Teri Stone inserts the graphics and makes all website changes. All feedback should go to Rick.
 - Volunteer Services – Carol Barake- Carol introduced Pam O’Brien as the next volunteer services chair. A heartfelt thank you letter from ASI Food Pantry Manager Ryan Choi is printed in the June 2026 Recorder. RS raised \$50,820 this year for the Food Pantry. Half of the money was from Friday donation envelopes and the other half from direct donations. Sign-ups are now open for physical therapy volunteers on July 1. The Gerontology mentor/mentee get together was held at the end of the semester.
 - Membership – Susan Wheeler/Mike Blixt distributed a lengthy report about the committee activities. Included was the ethnicity count of membership from years 2021-2026 which remains consistent. There are fourteen members on the committee, many of whom staff the tabling events.

- Technology – Tom Nelson/Kevin Collins – Tom reported that passwords will be changed next week. One person, rather than multiple volunteers, is needed to give consistent technology assistance. A description of work is being written by Kevin. This assistance will include the forum.

- **New and Continuing Business**

- Progress on 40th anniversary celebration -Events will take place during the year, rather than one event. A bus trip to a winery is planned for September. Plans are forming for a Holiday Cabaret and a luncheon with Dr. Wood. The committee is responding to the survey sent to members concerning the anniversary.
- Committee Chair positions for 2026/27 – All chair positions are filled but some need co-chairs – in particular Scholarship, Communications, and Volunteer Services.
- Special funds committee update (Deborah, Sue, Deanna, Susan, Jackie, Cathy, Dolores) – A good group of campus individuals are participating in plans for October events. Volunteers are invited to participate in an intergenerational podcast to discuss views on Democracy. The committee is open to ideas and continues to meet with people interested in the project. A Request for Proposal will be sent to faculty and RS members asking for specific topics to be discussed.
- Progress on MOU and discussions with Sac State- Deanna has requested a statement from the Sac State Provost stating that our present MOU will be enforced until a new agreement is completed. With the increase in Friday morning fall Sac State class offerings, our classroom space may be more limited. Eskaton in Citrus Heights has offered space for our classes which is being negotiated.

- **Presentation – Mike Agron**

- Understanding membership data – “Turning Data into Organizational Knowledge” Mike Agron gave an intriguing presentation about the use of membership data coupled with AI. Mike inspired the Board to use this information to make decisions linked to their committee issues. Deanna will share the email with a link necessary to access Mike’s drop box containing the membership data.

- **Key Dates**

- Summer Programs, May 28, 2026 – August 31
- 2026/27 Membership Enrollment Begins, Monday, June 1, 2026
- River Cats Game, June 24, 12:05 PM
- Fall Orientation and Open House, Student Union, August 14, 10:00-1:30
- Program Enrollment – Fall 2026, August 17, 8:00 AM

- **Adjourn**

- Motion made by Janet and seconded by Susan. Motion passed.

Next Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, July 9, 2026, 9:30 AM, CLARA Auditorium