

# RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## MEETING AGENDA

August 8, 2022

<b>Officers</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Members at Large</b>	<b>Present</b>
President, Deborah Seiler		Kevin Bray	
Secretary, Bob Benedetti		Laurye Brownfield	
Controller, Norv Wellsfry		Michele Finerty	
Past President, Ken Cross		Darryl O. Freeman	
NEW Interim Vice President, Susan Brackenhoff		Kathryn Tobias	
		Walter Wilson	

<b>Committee Chairs</b>	<b>Present</b>		
C&M Lorraine Murphy		Program Kathryn Tobias	
Fin/Ad Norv Wellsfry		Resource Dev Nancy Findeisen	
Forum Michele Finerty		Resource Dev Mike Pidd	
Gerontology Susan Brackenhoff		Rules Bob Benedetti	
LRP Ken Cross		Scholarship Laurye Brownfield	
MDCE Debbie Martinez		Technology Jeff Hendy	
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff		Technology Sarah Ryan-Roberts	
Program Pam OBrien		University Services Pat Paul	
		University Services Paula	

<b>Liaisons/Guests</b>	<b>Present</b>		
Website Jennifer Kerr		Weekly Update Rita Pasillas	
		Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS Dean Dianne Hyson	
Recorder Lorraine Murphy		Officer Manager, Debra da Costa	

1. **Call to order**
2. **President's Welcome Message.**
3. **Approval of July 11, 2022 Minutes** (attached) (vote)
4. **Reports**
  - a. Secretary: Bob Benedetti (attached)
  - b. Controller: Norv Wellsfry
  - c. Office Manager: Debra da Costa
  - d. Sac State Liaison, Dean Dianne Hyson, College of SSIS

## **5. Decisions and Discussion:**

- a. Approve President's appointment of Interim Vice President (vote)
- b. Approve President's appointment of Nominating Committee (vote)
- c. Consider future meeting times, locations, and dates
- d. Approve Diversity and Inclusion Award Naming
- e. Establish goals for the 2022-2023 Board of Directors, continuing

## **6. Committee Reports**

- a. Statements of No Report: Nominating, Scholarship, Long Range Planning, Rules
- b. Committee chairs/co-chairs to:
  - Review their phone/email on website Meet Us
  - Send meeting schedules for the FY thru June 30
  - Identify their members

## **7. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs**

- a. University Services – Pat
- b. Communications and Marketing - Lorraine
- c. Finance and Administration - Norv
- d. Forum – Michele
- e. Gerontology - Susan
- f. Long Range Planning - Ken
- g. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement - Debbie
- h. Nominating - Susan
- i. Program – Pam and Kathryn
- j. Resource Development – Nancy and Mike
- k. Rules - Bob
- l. Scholarship - Laurye
- m. Technology – Jeff and Sarah

NOTE: at the next Board meeting, Technology will move to the top with subsequent rotation of committee reports.

## **8. Working Groups**

- a. Orientation and Rendezvous
- b. Summer Program (attached)

## **9. New or Urgent Business**

### **10. Key Dates**

August 1	Fall 2022 Catalog posted to RS website
August 8	Program registration portal opens – Monday
August 12	Orientation & Rendezvous – Friday
August 19	Program Leaders' & Tech Hosts' Workshop – Friday
September 6	Fall programs begin – Tuesday
September 18`	"Back to School" Party – Arden Park - Sunday

December 2

Fall programs end – Friday

**11. Next Steps**

**12. Adjourn in Honor of Warren H. Bonta**

**Next Meeting: September 12, 1 pm, Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse**

---

**ITEM:** 5.a.

**DATE:** August 8, 2022

**TITLE:** Interim Vice President

**ACTIONS:** Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Direction \_\_\_\_\_ Decision   x  

---

**Background and Purpose**

Applications for Board officers and Members at Large (MALs) for the 2022-2023 term closed on February 22, 2022, and no one filed for the office of Vice President. When Nominating Committee chairperson Barbara Davis-Lyman submitted the slate of Board officers and MALs at the April 11, 2022 Board meeting, her slate indicated that the office of Vice President had no nominees.

Deborah Seiler served as Vice President from July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022. On July 1, 2022, she became President, having been elected in the May elections, and the position of Vice President officially became vacant.

Renaissance Society By Laws state:

*Article VI: Officers and Members-At-Large*

*E. Vacancies in the positions of the elected offices shall be filled by appointment of the President, with the approval, by majority vote, of the Board of Directors.*

The role of Vice President is vital to Renaissance and to the current President. Susan Brackenhoff has served ably as co-chair of the 2021-2022 Gerontology Committee and was a mentor for six semesters. She was an active member of the Nominating Committee serving under Chair Barbara Davis-Lyman in March through May of 2022, and she has experience as a Travel and Adventure presenter. At Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Illinois, she served as LLCC college liaison to the Life Long Learning group from 2004 until 2011.

A Renaissance member since 2017, Susan is beginning her second term as a Board member. She has outstanding leadership skills and a strong work ethic. She not willing to accept the position

as Board President in the future, but she has agreed to fulfill the duties of Vice President on an interim basis until a permanent appointment is made.

As Board President, I am extremely grateful to Susan for her willingness to assist the Board in this additional capacity.

**Recommended Action:**

Approve the President’s appointment of Susan Brackenhoff as interim Vice President until such time as the position can be filled permanently.

**Submitted By:** Deborah Seiler, President, Renaissance Society Board of Directors

**ITEM:** 5. b.

**DATE:** August 8, 2022

**TITLE:** Appointment of 2022-2023 Nominating Committee

**ACTIONS:** Discussion \_\_\_\_\_ Direction \_\_\_\_\_ Decision  X

---

**Background and Purpose**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for recruiting, interviewing, and selecting Officers and Members at Large to serve on the Board of Directors.

Renaissance Society Bylaws provide for a Nominating Committee appointed by the President and ratified by the Board of Directors

*Article IX: Committees*

*C. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three members, appointed by the President no later than the month of March, and approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors.*

In 2021-2022, the Nominating Committee consisted of Barbara Davis-Lyman as chair and Susan Brackenhoff and Warren Bonta as members. Shari Lowen served as a logistical and technical advisor to the committee.

Barbara indicated her desire to remain on the committee but not as chair. Susan expressed willingness to step up and serve as chair. Sadly, Warren Bonta’s passing has left a vacancy, but fortunately Shari Lowen has ample experience and has agreed to serve as the third member.

We are fortunate to have such an experienced and competent group to serve on this important committee, and I make the appointment with great confidence and pleasure.

**Recommended Actions**

Ratify the appointment of the 2022-2023 Nominating Committee:

Chair, Susan Brackenhoff

Member: Barbara Davis-Lyman

Member: Shari Lowen

**Presented by:**

Deborah Seiler, President, Renaissance Society Board of Directors

**ITEM: 5. c.**

**DATE: July 11, 2022**

**TITLE: Board Meeting Dates, Times, Locations**

**ACTIONS: Discussion**  **Direction**  **Decision**

---

**Background and Purpose**

Renaissance Board of Directors meetings have been held on Zoom since April, 2020. In order to foster greater cohesiveness and collegiality among Board members, the meetings have now been scheduled to be in person at the Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse in Campus Commons.

The first meeting will continue to be held on the second Monday at 1 pm, beginning on July 11.

Some members have expressed a concern that 1) the meeting at midday interrupts an entire day for them; and 2) meetings midday on a weekday effectively bar participation by members who are still employed. At least two of our current Board members are employed.

Another consideration is the location. The Clubhouse is located near the Sac State campus and is quite affordable. Parking is free. The Renaissance Society has committed to returning to campus on Fridays in the Fall, though Zoom classes will continue Monday through Thursdays. Should we consider meeting on campus to underscore our commitment to returning? Meeting on a Monday, however, would require Board members to pay for parking as our permits are only valid on Fridays and Saturdays.

Finally, there is an issue of timing. Past practice has been to meet on the second Monday of each month. In order to look ahead for entire month, my preference would be to schedule them on or close to the first of the month.

**Recommended Actions**

Hold an initial discussion of the time, date, and location of our 2022-2023 Board meetings. If possible, seek consensus, or continue to discussion when additional Board members can attend.

**Presented by:**

Deborah Seiler, President, Renaissance Society Board of Directors

**ITEM:** 5.d.

**DATE:** August 8, 2022

**TITLE:** Request to Name Diversity & Inclusion Award in Honor of Warren Bonta

**ACTIONS:** Discussion      Direction      Decision   X  

---

**Background and Purpose:**

The Renaissance Society lost a good friend and contributing member when Warren Bonta passed away on July 3, 2022.

Warren’s passion was for diversity, inclusion, and social justice. He was instrumental in forming the Membership Diversity & Community Engagement Committee and served as chair for a time. Importantly, he helped initiate the annual Diversity and Inclusion Award in the MDCE Committee.

Warren started the Accessibility Committee and worked to address the needs of our members with hearing impairments. He established our relationship with the Dreamer Resource Center, Serna Center, and the U Mentor programs at Sac State.

He helped to form the Special 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Committee and participated actively on the Nominating Committee which recruits, interviews, and recommends candidates for officer and member at large positions on the Board of Directors.

On August 4, 2022, the MDCE Committee voted unanimously to recommend naming the Diversity and Inclusion Award in his honor.

Renaissance Society Standing Rules state:

**Honors and Memorials**

*Naming Programs*

*The RS shall avoid naming seminars, programs or activities in honor of a member. However, upon request, the Board of Directors, at its discretion, may consider doing so on a case by case basis.*

The MDCE Committee acknowledges and respects the Standing Rules and respectfully requests consideration of this request.

**Recommended Actions:**

The MDCE Committee recommends that the Renaissance Society Board of Directors approve naming the Annual Diversity & Inclusion Award in honor of Warren Bonta.

**Presented by:** Debbie Martinez, MDCE Chairperson

**Addendum****Status of Board Members' Outreach Efforts**Rack Cards:

1,000 to James Scott, Sacramento Public Library (Deborah)

Dentists, Doctors, various organizations (Pam) #?

Rancho Cordova Senior Center (Debbie) #?

City of Folsom (Debbie) #?

Folsom Library (Debbie) #?

Local Catholic Church (Lorraine) 25

Local gym (Sarah) 30

Facebook/Twitter Shares:Ads:

½ page Valley Comm News (Deborah)

Articles in Publications:

Gold River Living and Fair Oaks Living (Mike)

East Sac, Arden Arcade, Carmichael, Greenhaven, Land Park (Deborah)

Sac State Alumni Association email (Ken)

Organizations:

Sacramento County Grand Jury (Norv)

Campus Commons (Bob)

Fair Oaks Women's Club **Speaker** (Rita)

Folsom Senior Center **Speaker** on August 2 (Debbie)

Retired City Employees ? (Rita)

Music Circus (letter seeking partnership) (Deborah)

Oakmont Senior Living partnership (Deborah to negotiate on August 11)

Television Coverage

TBD Good Day Sacramento (Susan)

TBD Capitol Public Radio (Deborah)

Gifts of Membership:

Lorraine, Deborah, others?