

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2023 at 10 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://csus.zoom.us/j/89446579007?pwd=NXpNbExtelBxeDITQWQ1N0J4WU9Tdz09>

Meeting ID: 894 4657 9007 Passcode: 234934

Officers	Present	Members at Large	Present
		MAL: Kathryn Tobias	P
President: Deborah Seiler	P	MAL: Carol Barake	P
Vice President: Debbie Martinez	P	MAL: Kevin Bray	P
Secretary: Susan Brackenhoff	P	MAL: Dale Good	P
Controller: Norv Wellsfry	A	MAL: Janet Heath	P
Past President: Ken Cross	P	MAL: Frank Martinez	P

Committee Chairs	Present		Present
C&M: Richard Atkinson	P		
Fin/Ad: Norv Wellsfry	A	Program: Kathryn Tobias	P
Forum: Michele Finerty	P	Resource Dev: Mike Pidd	P
LRP: Ken Cross	P	Scholarship: Laurye Brownfield	A
MDCE: Debbie Martinez	P	Technology: Sarah Ryan-Roberts	P
Nominating: Susan Brackenhoff	P	Volunteer Services Carol Barake	P

Liaisons/Guests	Present		Present
Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS /Dean: Dianne Hyson	P		
Office Manager: Amber Korb	P		
Guest: Dora Dugars	P		

1.Opening: President Deborah Seiler opened the RS Board meeting on zoom at 10:00 am.

2. President's Welcome Message: Deborah received positive comments on the Board orientation meeting held on July 10. The RS Fall Catalog was posted on the RS website today. Seventy-five Music Circus rehearsal tickets have been offered to RS volunteers for *Ragtime* on August 7th. Deborah gave accolades to Dora Dugars for her leadership in the AME Church gospel choir event on July 28, 2023. As part of her incredible efforts to arrange the event, Dora made a large personal donation. Dora said, "Good Vibes had touched her heart. Let the Music Speak." Since Dean Dianne Hyson has conflicting meetings on Monday mornings, Deborah asked members to consider moving our Board meeting to 1:00 pm. This will be decided at the next meeting. RS was represented at the Fair Oaks Horticultural Fair. Donor card signing will be August 19.

3. Approval of June 5, 2023 Minutes: Richard asked for his name to be corrected, then moved the minutes be approved as corrected. Ken seconded. Motion passed unanimously. No minutes were required in July at the Board orientation.

4. Reports:

- a. Secretary: Susan Brackenhoff - Susan thanked board members for sending their monthly reports to her instead of Deborah. Committee reports are due one week in advance of the meeting. No RS deaths were reported this month.
- b. Controller: Norv Wellsfry - Best wishes to Norv who is recovering from heart surgery. In his absence, Amber reported \$16,425 in general fund: \$49,979 in scholarship: \$8540 in the give something extra fund. A yellow donation button for the general fund on the website is in the works.
- c. Office Manager: Amber Korb - Orientation/Open House walk thru on August 11 at 1:00 pm.
- d. Sac State Liaison: Dean Dianne Hyson - After meeting the new Sac State President Luke Wood, Dianne found him to be a "breath of fresh air" and very open. He has already started making inroads into the enrollment challenge that Sac State has been facing. Currently, there are difficult union issues to be addressed. She will keep Deborah informed of any repercussions for RS. Dianne said she would be a champion for RS with President Wood. The future direction of RS matches the future direction for Sac State. Best time to interact with Sac State faculty is mid-fall.

5. Decisions and Discussion:

- a. Registration Update - Debbie announced we currently have 934 members registered which is consistent to last year at this time. Data from the newly collected demographics, RS has 75% women and 25% men. We only show 10% diversity in our membership. Our age range is aging out. Zip code data shows the largest membership from zip codes close to Sac State.
- b. Long Range Planning Report - Ken and Kevin have spent an enormous amount of hours preparing this report. Ken began by reviewing the 2014 report. Two important outcomes of this study were the creation of the Finance Committee that started a budget review process and a creation of a Scholarship Committee to begin awarding scholarships funded by donations. Ken said, "We have to focus on a few tasks. Plans should be made by the group that does the work." Kevin began his remarks by saying our Board is unusual because the members do the work. Going forward our plan should be to 1) identify what RS wants to do 2) Talk with Deborah about syncing with her plans 3) get feedback about the process. We need to refer back to the strategic plan often to make it work. What do we focus on? Who is going to do the work? Leaders need to take charge and be accountable. Much discussion followed. Richard noted how vital it is for seniors to stay relevant which goes hand-in-hand with getting involved. Committee responsibilities need to be defined and available when recruiting volunteers. Some committees (Volunteer Services and Scholarship) have procedure manuals for their committee in place. Deborah thanked Ken and Kevin for undertaking and completing this major task. Now it needs to be referred to regularly, not put on a shelf.
- c. Psychology Department Report on RS - Fifty-nine RS members were interviewed. Findings were that RS is successful in creating fun lifelong learning. There is a need for additional diversity. Survey indicated more in-person classes were desired. Kevin added that a survey of fifty-nine members does not necessarily speak for the entire membership.
- d. Interview with President Wood - not much to report as of now.

6. Written Committee Reports

Statements of No Report: Scholarship; Nominating; Finance and Administration

7. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs

- a. Volunteer Services: Carol - The first job is to memorialize what the committee does and what the needs are. Carol will meet individually with various committees. A tracking system for overall volunteer hours will create data for annual report. Deliverables are in the August report.
- b. Communications and Marketing: Richard - Marketing efforts will be emphasized. Enlist the help of students to make a 2-3 minute video that can be included in emails. Contact each presenter from summer to join RS. Look at programming to appeal to a diverse population.
- c. Finance and Administration: Norv - no report.
- d. Forum – Michele - See monthly report.
- e. Long Range Planning: Ken and Kevin - See above.
- f. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement: Debbie - Share the word about Orientation/Open House on August 18.
- g. Nominating – Susan no report.
- h. Program: Kathryn - Planning a short zoom instructor workshop in late August to attract new presenters. The RS Fall Catalog is available on the RS website as of this morning.
- i. Resource Development: Mike - All donor recognition will be August 20 at Campus Commons. Major donor reception will be in November. Allen Keown will plan a Welcome Back event September 17 at Arden Park to celebrate Mexican Independence Day.
- j. Scholarship: Laurye - No report.
- k. Technology: Sarah- Program data is in the system. Tech update will be August 16 for program leaders and tech hosts. Board members are invited. “How to” training on hybrids will be on August 25. Seven classes this semester are hybrid. Presently six classes are without tech hosts.

8. Working Groups:

- a. Summer 2023 Program - Next summer the diversity theme will continue. Programs may increase to 1 ½ hours. A “music and art across cultures theme” was suggested by Deborah and supported by Richard. RS bonds with ACC are strengthening. A member of ACC will present a 3 week program next summer.
- b. Diversity & Inclusion/Belonging - Debbie is working on invitations to non-members who attended summer programs.
- c. Orientation & Open House -Debbie Walk through August 11. Everyone should encourage attendance. There are 68 tables with 34 program leaders. Orientation 10:00 Open House 11:00 -12:30

9. New or Urgent Business:

- a. Planning Meeting for 2023-2024 -

10. Key Dates:

August 4 – Summer Program recap/listening session; mail AAG

August 7 – Fall Catalog Posted; Music Circus

August 14 – Program Enrollment begins

August 17 – setup in Green Room

August 18 – Orientation and Open House

August 19 – Card signing party for donors

August 20 – All Donor Recognition Event, Nepenthe

11. Adjourn: Before adjournment, Sarah suggested we investigate RS t-shirts. Debbie made the motion, seconded by Sarah to adjourn at 12:17 pm.

12. Next Meeting: Sept 11, 2023, Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse at 10:00 am.