

**THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 11, 2021**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1. Call to Order:** The meeting was held on Zoom and called to order at 1:07 p.m. by President Ken Cross. In attendance were: President Ken Cross, Past President David Abelson, Vice President Barbara Davis-Lyman, Secretary Bob Benedetti, Controller Norv Wellsfry; Members at Large - Christie Braziel, Susan George, Karen Martin, Deborah Seiler, Charles Wiseley; Committee Chairs- Evelyn Boggs, Chris Budwine, Nancy Findeisen, Jeff Hendy, Allan Keown, Cindy Suchanek, and Tom Suchanek; and guests Jennifer Cummings, Cheryl Huffman, Jennifer Kerr and Muffy Francke,

**1.2 Introductory Remarks:** none

**1.3 Announcements:** Spring membership registration is going well.

**2. AGENDA**

**2.1 Additions to the Agenda:** none

**2.2 Approval of the Agenda- Motion/Second - M/S – Findeisen/Benedetti - unanimous approval.**

**3. REPORTS/UPDATES FROM OFFICERS, STAFF, CSUS LIAISON**

**3.1 Secretary's Report**

- Approve minutes from November 9, 2020 Board Meeting- one correction – 5.3 – change early October to early December. **M/S – Benedetti/Seiler - unanimous approval.**
- Condolences – Elizabeth Solomon
- Need to let members know to advise RS of obituaries. Deborah Seiler will include in a Constant Contact.

### **3.2 Controller's Report – see 5.6**

**3.3 Office Manager's Report** – members are reporting difficulties with on-line program registration. Jeff Hendy is in the process of resolving all issues.

**3.4 CSUS Liaison Report – not in attendance.**

## **4. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

### **4.1 Leadership Meeting with Sac State President Robert S. Nelson on December 21, 2020**

- President Nelson appreciates the support RS members provide the Scholarship Program, the Food Pantry and the Gerontology Department students. He encouraged RS to increase commitment to mentoring.
- There was discussion of the need for community partnerships to increase the diversity of RS membership. President Nelson suggested that the CSUS retiree's association would be a resource in this regard.
- When space in the building where Capital Public Radio has been housed becomes available, President Nelson will consider the RS request to be one of the tenants.

### **4.2 Proposal to Extend Ad Hoc Status for the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Ad Hoc Committee**

- In March 2019, the RS Board granted ad hoc status to the Committee. Because of the pandemic, several of the events the Committee planned were canceled. Funds remain to offer activities which are in line with the mission of the Committee. Virtual events to honor Black History month and Women's History month are planned.
- Motion to extend the ad hoc status of the RS 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Centennial Committee through June 30, 2021. A full report of activities will be presented to the Board. M/S – Davis-Lyman/Boggs – unanimous.

## **5. COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **5.1 Communication and Marketing Committee –**

- Lorraine Murphy has joined the *Recorder* editing team.
- The Sac State Center for Small Business students concluded their project regarding RS external communication. They recommend Twitter as the platform to use to reach new members. Deborah Seiler will recruit a member who is familiar with Twitter and wants to take the lead on this.
- Annual Report has been distributed to campus leadership.
- A survey will be sent to members who might not be comfortable with technology to find out about their experience with Renaissance during this time of virtual online learning and social distancing.
- The Logo Subcommittee is preparing their survey.

### **5.2 Nominating Committee-**

- Applications are coming in for Member at Large (MAL). Board members are asked to make referrals to increase the pool.
- Suggestion to ask Program Leaders to refer class members who would make good MALs.

### **5.3 Forum Committee**

- There will be 13 speakers and 8 tech hosts starting February 12 for Spring 2021.
- Search for Fall 2021 speakers is underway.

### **5.3 Resource Development Committee**

- There has been a good response to the second annual end of year direct mail campaign.
- Send testimonials about why you donate to the Scholarship Fund to Nancy Findeisen.

#### **5.4 Program Working Group/ Seminar Committee**

- Spring Catalog and 60 second leader videos have been astoundingly successful.
- Leaders workshop went well.
- Virtual Orientation and Rendezvous will be held January 15,
- David Abelson requested that the Committee update its Protocols to incorporate all the changes resulting from the transition to a virtual classroom.

#### **5.5 Technology Working Group/Committee**

- The technical issues members reported when program registration opened this morning have been resolved.
- Kudos to Jeff Hendy for working with College of Continuing Education on sending members Zoom links with their program confirmation emails.
- Microsoft 365 Teams feature will be used for Fall 2021 Catalog.

#### **5.6 Finance and Administration Committee**

- Innovation funds – about 60% has been encumbered.
- Norv Wellsfry continues to work with University Enterprises Inc. on their challenges in ensuring timely payment of RS bills.
- Request for assistance with recruitment of additional members of Finance and Administration Committee.
- Committees should be thinking about their budget for 2021-22.

#### **5.7 Gerontology**

- The virtual Mentor Celebration event on December 14 was a rewarding experience for RS members in attendance.
- Evelyn Boggs' term as Committee Chair ends June 30. Marty Keale will be the next Chair and Susan Blackenhoff will be Vice-Chair.

#### **5.8 Membership, Diversity, and Community Engagement Committee**

- Ken cross will make a presentation about RS to the CSUS *Network Café* – a gathering of local nonprofits.
- Membership goal for the year is 1,800.
- Virtual new member dinner will be scheduled for February.

**5.9 Announcements, Board Direction and Next Steps - none**

**6.0 REPORTS** – see Board Packet.

**7.0 NEW OR URGENT BUSINESS** – none

**8.0 ADJOURNMENT** -there being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

**9.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING** – February 8, 2021 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Shari Lowen (for Bob Benedetti, Secretary)