

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 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
President, Deborah Seiler	P	Kevin Bray	A
Interim Vice President, Susan Brackenhoff	P	Laurye Brownfield	P
Secretary, Bob Benedetti	A	Michele Finerty	P
Controller, Norv Wellsfry	P	Darryl O. Freeman	A
Past President, Ken Cross	A	Kathryn Tobias	P

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

Liaisons/Guests	Present		Present
Website Jennifer Kerr	P	Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin; Kristan Sarve-Gorham	A
Weekly Update Loretta Burdeaux	A	Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS /Dean Dianne Hyson	A

Recorder Jim Hodges	A	Office Manager Amber Korb	P
Guests: Richard Atkinson; Janet Heath, Dale Good; Frank Martinez; Dolores Eitel	P-5	Liaison Ranny Eckstrom	A
Mike Agron	P	Dr. Ati Mosupyoe Attending for Dean Dianne Hyson	P
Lorraine Murphy	P		

1. **Call to Order:** RS President Deborah Seiler opened the zoom meeting at 10:00 a.m.

2. **President's Welcome Message:** The Music Circus has offered RS 75 free tickets to see *Ragtime* on August 7th. Single tickets will be offered to RS volunteers. Register on Eventbrite. Multiple scams have recently been reported using Deborah's name. Please be aware of scams.

3. **Approval of May 1, 2023 Minutes:** Sarah Ryan-Roberts moved the minutes to be approved as distributed. Laurye Brownfield seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Reports**
 - a. Secretary: Bob Benedetti has served as RS Secretary for six years. He has given the secretarial materials to Susan Brackenhoff who will assume the secretary position on the RS Board. Included in those responsibilities is sending condolences to members' families of those who have passed. Susan reported RS member Kathleen Spagnolo has passed away.
 - b. Controller: Norv Wellsfry - Norv reported on the proposed budget. Dolores Eitel had a question about the costs of the Forum. Norv explained that the cost was for facilities. Program leaders and speakers are not compensated. Norv motioned to accept the budget; Mike Pidd seconded. Motion passed.
 - c. Office Manager: Amber Korb - This is the first week of registration. Overall office procedures are going smoothly. The emergency contact form has a small issue that is being corrected.
 - d. Sac State Liaison, Asst. Dean Dr. Ati Mosupyoe, College of SSIS - Orientation for fall students has begun. "Hornet Launch" is a program designed to help freshman students enroll in appropriate classes. Sac State is trying to balance scheduling for first year students as well as continuing students. Enrollment continues to drop in all CSU colleges. Sac State has targeted 4000 potential students to contact about enrolling. Pam O'Brien

asked if students were moving more toward online degrees. Ati spoke highly of the new Sac State President J. Luke Wood, who at one time had been a student in her class. Summer school is going well. Ati is teaching a summer class on the Holocaust. Juneteenth celebration is on June 13th and everyone is invited. Deborah asked Ati for advice about reaching out to President Wood. Ati suggested reaching out to Mia Settles-Tidwell and telling her that Ati suggested the contact. President Nelsen is staying on until July 14th for the homeless soccer tournament. Deborah wants to talk further with Ati about building RS diversity and Sac State's process to diversify.

5. Decisions and Discussion:

- a. Budget Update - Norv asked for questions concerning the proposed budget presented in May. There were no questions or comments. \$18,000 was received in the "give something extra" fund. Expenses are expected to increase slightly. Norv projects a small surplus this year. Norv moved to accept the proposed budget; Mike Pidd seconded. It passed unanimously with no abstentions. Norv will email the budget to the Board.
- b. Program Leaders Workshop Update - Mike Agron and Kathryn Tobias - Mike provided a high-level overview of statistics from the program leaders' workshop. This included specific feedback from the members. He recommended planning for next year by asking presenters which classes were desired to identify learning requests up to 90 days out. His suggestions were to have workshop information broken into different tracks. Sarah said we always need to try to meet people's needs during a workshop. Pam suggested additional fruit and bagels be ordered. Deborah was highly complimentary. Pam questioned if the program leaders and tech update should be done at the same time. If so, a January workshop would be best.
- c. Branding Update - Debbie and Amber- After months of discussion, RS is now considered a "sub-identity". This is significant and puts us in the same classification as The Well and The Alumni Center. Debbie introduced a style guide for the branding, which included type of font and colors. If items are ordered from the University Print office, there is no need for approval. However, if we use an outside company, the trademark must be used, except in the case of an approved company. Going around this process could cause issues with the trademark and should not be done. Sarah had questions about on-line branding.
- d. Registration Update - Debbie announced we currently have 210 members registered compared to 214 at this time last year. Lauyre asked how people are added to the prospect list. Debbie explained her prospective member list process. Past members receive registration notices and invitations to the Open House. Everyone should help boost registration numbers.
- e. Retiring Board Member Recognition - Deborah recognized Bob Benedetti for serving as secretary for six years and Pat Paul and Paula Connors for leading the usher volunteers. Laurye Brownfield, Michele Finerty and Darryl O. Freeman have completed their terms as MALs. Pam O'Brien is retiring from the Program Committee. Also recognized were Jeff Hendy and Tom and Cindy Suchanek. Susan Brackenhoff was later recognized for retiring as Interim Vice President as well as Gerontology chairman.

6. **Written Committee Reports**

Statements of No Report: Communications & Marketing; Long Range Planning; Nominating; University Services

7. **Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs**

- a. Communications and Marketing – Lorraine thanked everyone for helping while she was inactive. A potluck to celebrate the committee is June 22. They are focusing on the summer program as well as working on the fall program. Dave Atkinson is a new member of the committee. A co-chair is needed to help Lorraine.
- b. Finance and Administration – Norv no further report.
- c. Forum – Michele itemized the exciting fall 2023 line-up in her monthly report.
- d. Long Range Planning - Ken no report.
- e. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement – Debbie is planning to resurrect the Ambassador Program. Debbie, Frank and Deborah have been attending various tabling events.
- f. Nominating – Susan no report.
- g. Program – Pam and Kathryn said the catalog is going well.
- h. Resource Development – Mike said we received an additional \$500 from Sac State for the Big Day of Giving. Collected \$11,795, with the \$500 puts the total over \$12,000. The committee is considering an all-donor event, perhaps a BBQ potentially at Arden Park. Allan Keown will help plan the event. Another donor recognition event for the major donors could be held at Deborah’s home again. The committee is also working on donor thank you cards. Approximately 290 people have donated.
- i. Scholarship – Laurye - \$12,000 has been awarded to scholarship recipients this year.
The application will be updated. See monthly report.
The Scholarship Committee is under budget and will send the information to Norv.
- j. Technology – Sarah emphasized the mandatory reset of passwords; Tom Nelson is taking over the management of passwords. Laurye is having a party for the tech hosts.
- k. Volunteer Services – Carol Barake will meet with Deborah, Debbie and Susan to discuss the launch of the Volunteer Services Committee.

NOTE: At the next Board meeting, the Volunteer Services Committee will move to the top with subsequent rotation of committee reports.

8. **Working Groups:**

- a. Summer 2023 Program - Starts Friday with Al Striplen's Native American program. Registration is on Eventbrite. Post future program information on your social media.
- b. Diversity & Inclusion/Belonging - Three people volunteered to help with inclusion and diversity activities after the question/answer period at the program leaders' workshop.

9. New or Urgent Business:

- a. Board Orientation - A Board orientation will be held for all Board members soon.
- b. Planning Meeting for 2023-2024 - A separate 2023-2024 planning meeting also needs to be planned. Booking rooms at Sac State is done eighteen months out.
- c. Homeless Soccer World Cup at Sac State - Allan Keown and Beth Mann are the contacts to volunteer for the event. Fifty-one countries will participate. July 8-15.

10. Key Dates:

June 1 – Registration Portal for 2023-2024 opens
June 9 – Summer Program – Al Striplen; Indian Museum
June 13 – Sac State Juneteenth Celebration
June 16 – Summer Program – Darryl Freeman
June 23 – Summer Program – Veteran's Panel; Planetarium show
June 30 – Summer Program – Little Richard documentary; Planetarium show
July 8 – 15 Homeless Soccer World Cup at Hornet Stadium

- 11. Adjourn:** Pam made the motion, seconded by Lorraine to adjourn at 12:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 10, 2023, Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse at 10:00 a.m. in person.