

THE RENAISSANCE SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting
October 11, 2021

1. OPENING

1.1 Call to Order: The meeting was held on Zoom and called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Ken Cross. In attendance were: President Ken Cross, Past-President David Abelson, Vice-President Deborah Seiler, Secretary Bob Benedetti; Members at Large –Michele Finerty, Darryl O. Freeman, Pam O'Brien, and Charles Wiseley; Committee Chairs – Susan Brackenhoff, Nancy Findeisen Jeff Hendy, Allan Keown, Lorraine Murphy, Sarah Ryan-Roberts, Cindy Suchanek and Tom Suchanek; and Guests Jennifer Cummings, Elizabeth Deuso, Jennifer Kerr, Muffy Francke and Ginger Mack. Members not in attendance: Christie Braziel, Laurye Brownfield, Debbie Martinez, Norv Wellsfry.

1.2 Introductory Remarks: none

1.3 Announcements: none

2. AGENDA

2.1 Additions to the Agenda: none

2.2 Approval of the Agenda - Motion/Second - M/S – Seiler/Abelson - unanimous approval.

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

3.1 Secretary's Report

- Approve minutes from September 13, 2021, Board Meeting- Nancy amended the September minutes item 5.3 to clarify that Lorraine Murphy continues as a Recorder editor. **M/S to approve the minutes as amended** –Benedetti/Abelson - unanimous approval.
- Condolences – Mary Francis Kennedy and Steve Levine.

3.2 Controller's Report – Ken Cross reported for Controller Norv Wellsfry.

- Please reference Norv's written report in the meeting packet.
- Discussion of member suggestion to purchase a seat in the new University Planetarium. Agreement that the Finance and Administration and Resource Development Committees will develop a policy on use of RS general fund for special projects. The policy will be presented at the November 2021 Board Meeting. In the meantime, Ken will contact the Planetarium to determine the likelihood the remaining seats will be purchased before RS has time to make a decision.

3.3 Office Manager's Report – The Fall 2021 Membership Directory will be distributed by email by early November.

3.4 CSUS Liaison Report – Dean Hyson sent an apology saying she had a conflict and could not attend the meeting.

4. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 RS Extension of Ad Hoc Status for the 19th Amendment Centennial Celebration- see written report.

- The Committee has unspent funds estimated at \$8,500.00. Their first choice is to use the funds for a voting rights theme mural on a campus building.
- Motion to extend the ad hoc status of the RS 19th Amendment Centennial Celebration Committee from October 31, 2021 to December 31, 2022. **M/S – Findeisen/Seiler-unanimous approval.**

4.2 RS Catalog & Marketing Working Group Update- see written report.

- Deborah met with Uptown Studios marketing agency. They are preparing a rack card which will be used for marketing similar to the RS brochure which is now out of date.
- Suggestion to develop a new website which would have more flexibility than the current one.

4.3 RS Spring 2022 Catalog Request for Proposal (RFP) Update -see written report.

- Three proposals were received, two applicants were interviewed. The review committee recommended that Vanessa Perez be awarded the contract.
- Motion to accept Vanessa Perez's proposal to do the graphics for the Spring 2022 RS Catalog for \$3,500.00. **M/S – Keown/C. Suchanek – unanimous approval.**

5. COMMITTEE UPDATES

5.1 Program Working Group/Seminar Committee – see written report

- Concern that the number of proposals for seminars, Special Interest Groups (SIGS) and presentations is low. Meeting on Oct. 12 to discuss.
- Membership, Diversity and Community Engagement Committee continues to recruit leaders for diversity, inclusion and social justice seminars.
- Bill Fackenthall has agreed to replace Karen Martin as co-chair of the SIG Committee.

5.2 Technology Working Group/Committee – see written report

5.3 Communications and Marketing – see written report

- Lorraine Murphy is the new Co-Chair of the Committee.
- Board Members are asked to review the draft Annual Report as soon as possible.

5.4 Forum Committee –

- About 1000 attended the Dr. Katharine Hayhoe Climate Change Forum.
- Need a few more speakers for Spring 2022.

5.5 Resource Development Committee –

- \$19,175.00 raised through Fall 2021 membership registration donations. This is almost twice the amount from last year.
- September Estate Planning seminar was a success with over 100 in attendance.
- The end of year direct mail campaign will be the Committee's next activity.

5.6 Finance and Administration Committee- see written report

5.7 Scholarship Committee- see written report

5.8 Gerontology Committee –

- There are 83 mentors - all mentoring is on Zoom.
- Similar to last year, RS funds will be used for Gerontology students attending a virtual conference.

5.9 Membership, Diversity and Community Engagement- see written report.

- Ambassadors will have a table at the Bruceville Point Health Fair.
- There is not a way to track ASI Food Pantry donations made by RS members. Considering a “drive by” donation day which would allow tracking.

5.10 Announcements, Board Direction and Next Steps – Ken Cross will be scheduling the next Hybrid Working Group meeting.

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 3:20 pm.

9.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING – November 8, 2021, at 1:00 pm. December Board meeting will be on the 6th instead of the 13th in order to vote on a return to in-person classes early in the month.

Shari Lowen (for Bob Benedetti, Secretary)

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