

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES for January 8, 2024

10 a.m. on ZOOM

| Officers | Present | Members at Large | Present |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| President, Deborah Seiler | P | Carol Barake | P |
| Vice President, Debbie Martinez | P | Dale Good | P |
| Secretary, Susan Brackenhoff | P | Janet Heath | P |
| Controller, Norv Wellsfry | P | Frank Martinez | P |
| Past President, Ken Cross | P | Kathryn Tobias | |
| | | Vacant | |

| Committee Chairs | Present | | Present |
|------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| C&M Richard Atkinson | P | Program Dale Good | P |
| Fin/Ad Norv Wellsfry | P | Resource Dev. Mike Pidd | P |
| Forum Michele Finerty | P | Scholarship Laurye Brownfield | P |
| Forum Co-Chair Janet Heath | P | Technology Sarah Ryan-Roberts | P |
| LRP Ken Cross | P | Tech Co-chair Tom Nelson | P |
| MDCE Debbie Martinez | P | Volunteer Services Carol Barake | P |
| Nominating Susan Brackenhoff | P | | |

| Liaisons/Guests | Present | | Present |
|---|---------|---|---------|
| Website Jennifer Kerr | P | Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin | |
| Weekly Update/Constant Contact Loretta Burdeaux | | Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS /Dean Dianne Hyson | |
| Recorder Jim Hodges | | Office Manager Amber Korb | P |
| Guests: | | | |

1. **Call to Order** - President Deborah Seiler called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The zoom meeting was recorded.
2. **Approval of Dec. 4, 2023, Minutes** - After a correction to the spelling of Delores Delgado-Campbell's name, Ken moved to approve the December minutes and Rick seconded. Motion carried.
3. **President's Welcome Message** - Deborah shared her excitement about the new semester. She complimented those who worked so hard on the new beautiful catalog which is now available online.

Deborah met with President Wood and explained the relationship between Sac State and RS. He did not have extensive information about RS. Topics Deborah shared with him concerned the MOU, our dedication to ASI Food Bank, our philanthropic projects, desire to diversify, increase membership and award scholarships. His response was very positive and asked to be informed of how he could help RS. A faculty strike is scheduled for January 22-26 which will affect Open House. Amber located a potential location at the Unitarian Universalist Society on 2425 Sierra Blvd which is close to campus. Debbie has decided not to run for RS President citing her time needed to do a good job was limited. Ted Fong is stepping down from ACC. He was a good contact for us but Dani Lee is still there at ACC.

4. Reports

- a. Secretary: Susan Brackenhoff - A long time RS member and leader of the New York Times SIG, Ron Meyer passed away. Condolences have been sent to the family.
- b. Controller: Norv Wellsfry - Norv reported year to date RS is in good shape. He gave a thorough breakdown of individual committee expenses. Most committees are fairly close to their budgeted amount. Resource development is over budget due to the donor events this year. An increase is needed next year. Tech committee is well under budget. Budgeting process will begin in February.
- c. Office Manager: Amber Korb posted the catalog today. At a Glance copies are available in the office. Program enrollment begins on January 22.
- d. Sac State Liaison, Dean Dianne Hyson, College of SSIS - No report

5. Decisions and Discussion:

- a. Nominating Committee Appointment -Mike moved to approve the Nominating Committee appointment of Susan Brackenhoff, chair; Barbara Davis-Lyman and Ann Reed. Susan seconded it and motion passed.
- b. Annual Report status – Debbie is in the editing stage of the report.
- c. Orientation and Open House - The impending faculty strike is complicating the Open House/ Orientation. The venue needs to be changed quickly. Debbie will hold a committee meeting to solve the multitude of issues in regard to the changes.
- d. Diversity Proposal update
- e. Program Leaders Workshop - The date has been changed to May 17.
- f. Speaking and tabling events – Spring Membership Drive will include talks with the California retired teachers' group and a pride fair on April 25.
- g. Update on Sac Public Library Program/Hart Senior Center - Unfortunately not much movement. Since one-time presenters have worked hard on their presentations, the library venue would be a good opportunity to offer their presentation again. A coordinator to lead the relationship with the library is needed.
- h. MLK Jr. 25th Anniversary Celebration and March - Deborah has a table and has invited guests from the AME Church. Debbie and Frank will be attending, The MLK March on January 15 will begin at Sac City College at 8:30 a.m. Deborah encouraged participation.

6. Written Committee Reports

Statements of No Report: Long Range Planning

7. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs

- a. Nominating – Susan There are three Member-at-Large positions to be filled. These are two-year positions. Offices on the Executive Board are always open or can be retained by the current officer if there is not another candidate who wishes to run for that office.

Announcements for the election will appear in the next edition of The Recorder and The Weekly Update. The applications are due February 16. Interviews will occur in late February and early March. The slate of officers will be presented to the Executive Board and RS Board in April.

- b. Program – Dale -The January meeting will be later in January. He is pleased with the new catalog. He asked for feedback on the program leaders’ workshop. Survey results coming soon.
- c. Resource Development – Mike - Major donors are listed in the catalog. Catalog should prompt donations soon. Only 20 donors gave all \$20,000 for scholarships. Smaller donors are welcome and needed. Give Sac State Day is soon.
- d. Scholarship – Laurye was pleased to report that the Sac State issues involving scholarship applications have been resolved.
- e. Technology – Sarah/Tom -They are not planning a tech overview training since there are so few new leaders. January 17th will be the update training. They provide excellent follow-up to any questions a leader or tech host may have. Tom continues to work on a file management system for RS. It would provide access to minutes, agendas, committee meeting notes, etc. There are many, many facets to this process. He is waiting to hear from UEI.
- f. Volunteer Services – Carol RS received the Golden Plate Award for the third year in a row. There were 128 donors. Carol is working on an accurate breakdown of data for all volunteer services. Volunteer hours are a huge benefit to Sac State and give RS credibility. Spring Gerontology volunteer hours totaled 1900 hours. Physical therapy had 40-50 RS volunteers. Carol’s goal is to have regular reporting data at the end of each semester.
- g. Communications and Marketing --Rick shared the results of his survey. The top two most viewed communications are The Weekly Update and The Recorder. The President's Corner and Forum schedule are the most read articles. Also popular are member profiles. Mike suggested sending a separate email to announce the Recorder and not just a notice in The Weekly Update.
- h. Finance and Administration – Norv See above
- i. Forum – Michele has arranged for the CEO of SPCA to be a Forum speaker. The fall speaker search has begun. The \$25 honorarium promised to every Forum speaker had not been given to the Seth Nelson Emergency Fund since the inception of the offer. Michele and Norv have collaborated to make good on the total donations. Dr. Wood has offered to make a presentation and the Forum Committee will consider him for a Fall presentation.
- j. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement – Debbie has created a survey to send to non-renewing members. Deborah has a list of names who might be interested in being a cohort. Plans are underway for another diversity-themed social gathering on February 2.

8. Working Groups

Summer Program, 2024

Center for Small Business- Their assistance is available to RS projects.

9. New or Urgent Business

10. Key Dates

- a. January 5 – Mail AAGs
- b. January 8 – Board Meeting; Catalog Posted; Marian Kile’s PPT class
- c. January 10 – Technology Overview Program
- d. January 12 – Janet Heath Training for Forum Tech Hosts
- e. January 17 – Spring 2024 Tech Update

- f. January 22 – Program Enrollment Opens
- g. January 26 – Orientation & Open House
- h. January 27 – MLK Jr. Dinner
- i. February 5 – Renaissance classes begin
- j. February 9 – Help Desk; First Friday Pizza

11. Adjourn: Dale made the motion to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. Rick seconded it.

12. Next Meeting: February 5, 2024, Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse

Submitted by Susan Brackenhoff

RS Secretary