

**MSU ALUMNI CLUB OF MID MICHIGAN (“Club”)
Minutes of Meeting Held February 15, 2006
At Providence Mortgage Company**

Board Members Present: John Suckow, Ray Chase, Tom Ruis, Rob Gilbreath, Micki Pasteur, Steve Peckham, Merritta Proctor, Jeff Hicks, Nicole Dandridge, Pauline Johnson-West and Peter Wujkowski.

Board Members Excused: John Black, Tim Sambaer, Carole Lick and Marcy Bishop.

President Pasteur called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved. Additions to the agenda included: 1. Barbara Ball, from the office of Graduate School Admissions at Michigan State University was moved up on the agenda to discuss the proposed Endowed Scholarship.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **motion** was made by John Suckow to approve the January 18, 2006 minutes. The motion was seconded by Jeff Hicks. Motion carried to approve the January 18, 2006 board minutes, as submitted.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Micki Pasteur indicated that she had received two names for the MSU Alumni awards. One of the proposed nominees, Sue Hansen, declined to have her name submitted for an award. Kellie Dean, the other proposed nominee, was honored to be nominated. Micki indicated that she received an extension to submit Kellie Dean’s application. She also indicated that she needed letters of support from local community letters to include with the application. Some of the suggestions to write letters of support included Tim Staudt, John Chimmel and Norman M. Gafney.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY’S REPORT

Newsletter –The deadline to submit information to include in the newsletter was January 18, 2006. However, Corresponding Secretary Steve Peckham indicated that if anyone had information that they wanted to include in the newsletter, he could extend the deadline if necessary.

Website – Steve indicated that the Executive Committee had a meeting with Josh Wease to explore ways to improve the Club’s website. Josh has agreed to help the Club redesign the website shortly after tax season is complete. Rob Gilbreath indicated that the domain name www.midmichiganspartans.com is available. After a short discussion, it was decided to use this domain name if it is still available.

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Steve indicated that the e-mail names the Club receives from the national alumni association is not always very accurate. The Club will try and create its own e-mail list once the new website is up and running.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer John Suckow presented the Statement(s) of Cash Flow reports. These included the Steve Smith Account and the Board Operating Account. Members had an opportunity to view the reports and ask any questions related to it.

A **motion** was made by Jeff Hicks to accept the Treasurer’s report and seconded by Steve Peckham. Motion carried to approve the January treasurer’s report, as submitted.

PROJECT UPDATES

Endowed Scholarship

Barbara Ball presented the Board with a draft of an Endowment Agreement (“Agreement”). The minimum endowment amount is \$30,000 which is to be raised over a period of 5 years. The annual distributions total 5.75% (\$30,000) or approximately \$1,500 per year. Any earnings above and beyond the 5.75% will be reinvested in the principal. The Agreement is based on need, not merit. The Agreement can be amended as long as there is a Club president. The award is typically given in February or March each year as the financial aid forms come out January 1 each year. The MSU Development Office would be willing to work with our Club to approach donors for donations. Some alumni clubs have golf outings and other activities to raise funds for their endowment scholarships. The Office of Financial Aid would be responsible for selecting recipients. Barbara indicated that the 5 year rule can be “massaged” if the Club needs more time to produce the necessary \$30,000. The Club must only demonstrate that it is making progress toward the goal. Barbara stated that 50 or 60 MSU alumni clubs across the country have established an endowment scholarship, including many of the MSU alumni clubs located in Michigan.

Lion King Performance Reception – February 19, 2006

Merritta Proctor indicated that all 100 tickets have been sold and that there were 13 people on a waiting list for tickets. Merritta told the Board what food would be served at the reception. She also indicated that the food totaled \$21.40 per person. The ticket price combined with the food per person totaled approximately \$90.00 per person. Merritta indicated that the 4 cast members who will attend the reception, per their union contract,

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need to have a meal prior to the performance and the Club is picking up their food tab. This expense has been provided for in the ticket price. Merritta indicated the Club should net approximately \$900 from the Lion King ticket sales.

Undergraduate Teaching Excellence

Pauline Johnson-West summarized her meeting with Dr. Banks. Pauline made it clear to Dr. Banks that the Club needed more feedback from Dr. Banks and the award winners. John Suckow indicated that he was surprised to learn that the Club has been providing this award for the last 30-35 years. Micki Pasteur stated that she attended the awards ceremony and was very impressed and indicated that the Club’s award recipients appeared “worthy.” Micki indicated that she is going to put on next month’s meeting agenda a discussion item whether the Club wants to continue the award next year.

Textbook Scholarships

Tom Ruis indicated the deadline for application for textbook scholarships is March 1, 2006.

Golf Outing

The brochures for the golf outing have been completed and were presented to the Board members. The next Golf Committee meeting is to be held February 17, 2006 at 7: 30 a.m. at Panera’s in Frandor.

Women’s Basketball Reception

The reception was held on February 12, 2006 on Senior Day. Merritta Proctor indicated that approximately 175 people attended. The Club split the costs with the Fast Break Club. The expense to the Club was \$275. Micki Pasteur, Nicole Dandridge and Merritta Proctor all attended the reception. There was some discussion as to how the attendees were selected. John Suckow indicated that he will adjust February’s “Special Projects” budget line item to reflect the \$275 expense.

Club Sporting Events

Jeff Hicks indicated that he was trying to determine whether the Club should charter buses to both the UM and Northwestern football games. The Northwestern game would have a chartered bus leave on a Friday (10/20) and return on Sunday (10/22). Because the Chicago Marathon will be taking place in downtown Chicago that weekend, the overnight stay would be in Schaumburg, Illinois. The UM game is on October 7, 2006 and the Club has set aside 50 tickets. The price will be \$140 for alumni members and

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\$150 for non-alumni which includes game-day ticket, transportation and entrance to the alumni party. Pauline Johnson-West indicated that, contrary to popular belief, the UM game is not that well attended from a charter point of view. Rob Gilbreath made a **motion** to ask Kellie Dean to set aside an additional 50 tickets to the UM game for the Club. Ray Chase seconded it. The motion carried. There was some discussion about obtaining tickets and charter service for other road games (Penn State, e.g). Micki Pasteur indicated that the Club would revisit whether the Club wants to pursue other away games at the next Board meeting.

Non-Sporting Events

No Report.

Membership Development/Outreach

Nicole Dandridge stated she had a brainstorming meeting with members of the MSU National Alumni Association to find ways as to how the Club can increase its membership. Some of the suggestions included: setting up a lap-top computer at Club activities so people can register at www.msualum.com and have a phone-a-thon to try and get former alumni association members active again.

Student Assistance/Coordination

John Suckow reviewed with the Club a report he received from the Red Cross. The Red Cross served 10 families (based on 7 “incidents”) with the Club’s funds in 2005. \$5,135.64 was spent, mostly on housing and meals/food. John made a **motion** to increase the student assistance to \$7,500 and to break it down as follows: \$5,000 to Red Cross, \$1,500 to MSU Food Bank and \$1,000 to be kept in a “reserve fund” for future need. The motion was seconded by Pauline Johnson-West. Motion carried.

University Assistance: Mini-Grants

Nicole Dandridge indicated that letters are set to be sent out in mid-March to the programs and non-revenue sports teams. Nicole also stated that she was considering asking the Board to include graduate programs next year.

Publicity

Rob Gilbreath indicated that he submitted a press release with the names of the new Executive Board and Board members. Some Board members indicated that the press release was in the Lansing State Journal on February 10, 2006.

OLD BUSINESS

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Rob Gilbreath indicated that the Board member roster has been completed and is up-to-date. He stated he e-mailed the roster to all Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

The WKAR Auction will be held on April 27th from 5:30-8:30 p.m.. Steve Peckham stated the Club can bring up to 20 people. Steve will send out an e-mail for volunteers.

Jeff Hicks presented a **motion** to adjourn. Rob Gilbreath seconded it. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.