

**MSU ALUMNI CLUB OF MID MICHIGAN (“Club”)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes of Meeting Held January 1, 2007**

**Board Members Present:** Kim Kittleman, Jeff Hicks, Nicole Dandridge, Carole Lick, Barb Sawyer Koch, Charnita Alexander, Rob Gilbreath, Tim Sambaer, Carole Sorenson, Dominic Migaldi, Merritta Proctor, David Tyler (guest), Tom Ruis, Marcy Bishop Kates, Nathan Clark.

Board Members Absent: Pete Wujkowski (excused)

President Sambaer called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved and no additions were made

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A **motion** was made by Jeff Hicks, seconded by Kim Kittleman, to approve the December 2006 minutes. Motion carried to approve the December 2006 Board minutes as submitted.

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Club Initiatives: President Sambaer presented a list of initiatives that the executive committee desires to pursue in the year 2007.

**Young Alumni Initiative:** The MSU National Board of Directors has requested that each regional club consider establishing a young alumni coordinator to sit as a voting member of the board. Kim Kittleman discussed the background and research that lead the National Board to make the recommendation. Kim will forward to the board a suggested by-law amendment to establish such a position no less than 10 days prior to the next meeting.

**Constituent Club Involvement:** President Sambaer presented the wish that the Club involve the University Constituent Club liaisons/Clubs with our activities. The potential benefits include additional events for our members and shared publicity of events.

The Board discussed the possibility of involving the Black Alumni Association and perhaps invite Rich Lewis to represent that group as a Mid Michigan Board member. There was interest from the Board in utilizing the Black Alumni Association to help co-sponsor events like the spring football game/tailgate and golf outing. Barb Sawyer Koch stated even if the Association does not want to help sponsor they may be willing to assist in other ways.

Carole Lick added that the Alumni Club of Mid Michigan should invite the constituent liaisons to present to the Club at a Board meeting. She suggested the Board could plan a social event immediately after the Board meeting, perhaps involving a guest speaker from the Constituent Club and open the event to members. Barb Sawyer-Koch stated that the colleges have their own publications and magazines that could assist in advertising the events. President Sambaer supportive of the publicity assistance for our Club events.

Marcy Bishop Kates volunteered to be the project leader for organizing Constituent involvement with the Alumni Club of Mid Michigan.

**Increase Volunteerism:** President Sambaer suggested that existing Board members make a goal of bringing one non board member to each meeting. The executive committee discussed a potential mixer to invite all past Board members. Rob Gilbreath suggested including individuals that applied but were not accepted to the board. President Sambaer stated that increased involvement will allow us to identify and groom future leaders similar to the goals of the young alumni initiative.

**Committee Assignments:** President Sambaer requested all budget requests be submitted at the February meeting. Events scheduled prior to August should have a newsletter announcement submitted to Rob Gilbreath no later than February 15, 2007. Board members have been placed on committees based on their feedback wishes.

#### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Rob Gilbreath encouraged all committees to meet this month and be prepared to bring proposals to the board next month.

Rob stated the purpose of the membership committee is to monitor and initiate all member communications. He stated the web site domain is registered and he would be joining Jeff Hicks in a meeting with several web design/management individuals to discuss how they might benefit our site and Club. Rob stated that he would be checking the Clubs email and 800 number. He stated he needs to acquire the pass code. President Sambaer stated he would provide that information.

Newsletter will be sent in March and August. Each committee needs to submit an article for the newsletter no later than February 15, 2007. Rob Gilbreath stated his wish that the Club secure advertising to help fund and improve the newsletter.

Rob voiced frustration with the database provided by the MSUAA and wonders why there is a discrepancy between lists we receive.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

No report. Nathan Clark has not had the opportunity to meet with the past treasurer due to John Suckow's travel schedule. Nathan stated they would be meeting this month and would have a full report for the February meeting.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**SPORTING EVENTS COMMITTEE:** Jeff Hicks and Kim Kittleman, Co-chair

Summary of 2006 Events: Bus trip to University of Michigan football game, Breslin/Munn Tour. Great turn out for the tour event.

Proposed events for 2007: Tailgate for spring football Green and White game. Homecoming tent, Women's Basketball Reception (Meritta Proctor volunteered to coordinate Club participation for that event.) Football stadium tour.

**NON-SPORTING EVENTS COMMITTEE:** Marcy Bishop Kates, Chair

Proposed events for 2007: Wharton Center reception for wicked, water carnival, WKAR Action night (Meritta Proctor and Jeff Hicks volunteered to assist). Homecoming parade float. Jeff Hicks suggested YA involvement in float development. Barb Sawyer-Koch suggested a MSU Museum event.

Committee Goal to program more non sporting/social events.

**YOUNG ALUMNI COMMITTEE:** Kim Kittleman, Chair

Kim Kittleman stated she had described the National Young Alumni Initiative earlier in the meeting. She will provide all appropriate documentation for a by-laws amendment prior to the February Board meeting.

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROJECT:** Merritta Proctor, Chair

Merrita has requested that a representative from the MSU food bank and the Red Cross attend a Board meeting to discuss how they have used our donations in the past on how they plan to use future donations. Red Cross scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, the food bank representative will attend the March meeting. The Board voiced agreement that we should know how the money is used. Rob Gilbreath noted that there is potential for publicity with the gifting of the money. Mrs. Izzo is very supportive of the food bank and she should be made aware of our Club involvement with the charity.

Barb Sawyer-Koch asked if other regional clubs were aware of our support of local charities. She suggested we communicate with the other clubs to encourage cooperation and involvement. Barb also suggested we make MSUAA aware of our work and perhaps the alumni magazine would help promote our causes.

**UNIVERSITY ASSISTANCE:** Nicole Dandridge, Chair

Mini grant program: Designed for non revenue sports and cultural groups to apply in late spring for a grant (advertise in April, May due date, awards given in June). The group must describe in detail how they would spend the funds. Last year just over \$10,000 was awarded.

Nicole hopes to make our grant program known to additional cultural programs. She will reach out to several non Board members for additional committee members. Ms. Dandridge hopes to move up the deadline and award dates.

**MEETING COMMITTEE:** Tim Sambaer, Chair

Tim Sambaer discussed the potential for utilizing the MSUAA offices for our Board meetings. He stated it is a beautiful facility that is easily accessible. Dave Brown from the MSUAA offered a conference room for our Boards use.

President Sambaer suggested the Board move its meeting start time to 5:30 p.m. There was brief Board discussion of possible problems including parking. No decision was reached. Further discussion warranted.

**ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP:** Carole Lick, Barbara Sawyer Koch, and Kim Kittleman, Co-Chair

Fundraising began in November 2006 for an MSU endowed scholarship. The goal amount to establish the fund is \$30,000. Early this winter the committee mailed donation letters to local alumni and hosted a holiday party for Stella Cash. The holiday party event was a great success and to date we have raised \$8, 721.

Carole noted that she was unsure the club had forwarded its pledge of \$5000 seed money and the matching funds. President Sambaer stated he would follow up on the Clubs donation

Proposed 2007 Events: Winter Gala December 15 (first choice date) or December 8 (second choice date.) Location would be the LaSalle Bank Club or Brian Hugglers home.

**UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AWARD:** Tim Sambaer, Chair

Each college is asked to identify an outstanding teacher. The information is gathered by staff on campus. The committee functions to read the nomination forms and select a winner.

**TEXTBOOK SCHOLARSHIP:** Tom Ruis, Chair

Last year the Alumni Club of Mid Michigan awarded 10 \$750 scholarships for textbooks. Tom hopes to update the application, establish an earlier deadline, and plan an award reception.

**GOLF OUTING:** Jeff Hicks, Chair

The golf committee consists of seven members, current and past Board member. Golf outing scheduled for June 25, 2007 at the Country Club of Lansing. Assistance needed

for getting auction items (tickets, signed paraphernalia, gift certificates to resteraunts...)  
Chris Holman will broadcast from the outing. Coach Mark Dantonio has been contacted.

### **OTHER BUISNESS**

**TAX UPDATE:** Nicole Dandridge

Not much change to note. The individuals working on our case are going back through the years to file taxes. Nicole has contacted other regional clubs for their tax status information. Nicole believes the cost/fees for the service will be nominal.

### **SAF DINNER:**

Board discussed sponsoring five individuals to attend the SAF networking dinner. Several members voiced interest in attending. Tim will send and email request to the Board asking for volunteers. Selection will be made based on Board seniority.

**Meeting Adjourned**