

SUAA Board Minutes
June 3, 2021
Wesley United Methodist Church

Members present: Barker, Blackledge, Brown, Dallinger, Farr, Fulkerson, Gilbert, Helmers, Jones, Marx, Nelson, Pano, Werling, Yunker

President Farr called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

February minutes are not available for approval. The minutes of the Zoom meeting in April were approved as read. Gilbert/Brown

Yunker submitted the treasurer's report for January-May, 2021. Approved Jones/Fulkerson

Nelson, survivor's assistance, noted the following deaths since the last report: Marybeth Morgenthaler, Anita Lee, Cheryl Colliflower, Waneen Stout, Raleigh Whitehall, Robert Henry, Alice Huston Hall, Rodney Rouse, and William Combs. Farr welcomed Marcia Blackledge as the chapter's new survivor's assistance counselor.

Marx reported a decline in chapter membership from 555 to 548 as of June 1.

Dallinger suggested the dates of Tuesday, October 12th or 19th, for a catered fall luncheon at Wesley Church. She will check on the first as the primary choice.

Brown, SUAA foundation, reported that up to six \$1000 scholarships are available to children of SUAA members. In addition, two \$1000 profession development grants will be awarded. Information is available on our website: wu.edu/suaa

Legislative report, Nick Pano:

The first session of the 112th General Assembly has adjourned. Chris Welch is the new speaker, succeeding Michael Madigan, who served for 35 years.

The House passed a budget of \$42 billion with full funding for pensions and higher education. The House approved the proposal to replace Chicago's appointed school board by a 21-member elected board to be operational by 2027. Betting on intercollegiate sports in Illinois was approved.

A constitutional amendment will be placed on the ballot in 2024 to ban local right-to-work laws. Election day in November 2022 will be a state holiday (one-time). The state primary will be moved from March to September. Minor changes were made to an ethics bill (which does not address the issue of the "revolving door" between serving as a legislator and becoming a lobbyist).

Republicans proposed establishing a "fair map" committee for political redistricting, following the 2020 Census, whose data will not be available until October 2021. However, a 8-4 Democratic majority committee established new boundaries, using available data, to ensure adequate minority representation (in their view).

No report from publications, net-working or technology.

Old business: Farr reported on the cordial and informative zoom meeting held with WIU President Huang in April. He was receptive to our concerns about the need for contact between SUAA and the Human Relations department, the staff of which has been greatly reduced during the past year. Full staffing will become effective July 1.

New business:

The terms of Linda Farr as president and Jacqui Richmond as secretary were extended for another year. Motion approved: Dallinger/Brown.

Jones and Marx proposed holding a welcome reception and social for President Huang at the Macomb Country Club at SUAA's expense. The motion was amended to establish a planning committee of Jones, Marx and Yunker. Discussion included countering current anti-Asian sentiments and the on-going COVID-19 crisis. Motion approved with one dissent – Werling.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Werling (*ad hoc* secretary)