

Minutes of the June 27-28, 2019 Annual Meeting
State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA)
President Abraham Lincoln Hotel
Springfield, Illinois

The meeting was called to order by President Linda Gunn at 11:45 a.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2019. Ninety directors were present, and a quorum was declared by the President.

The agenda for the meeting was adopted without exception. After a recess for lunch, nominees for seats on the Executive Committee were introduced.

Amanda Kass, Associate Director of the Government Finance Resource Center, spoke about Illinois state pensions and finance.

In response to the following motion passed at the 2018 Fall Board Meeting, “that the Bylaws Committee be tasked to consider a revision of the SUAA Bylaws that involves a “delegate” structure whereby the current Executive Committee becomes the Board of Directors and the current Board of Directors becomes the SUAA House of Delegates, with all appropriate changes to the Bylaws, and to report to the Annual Meeting in June 2019 with the request that the President consider appointing two additional members from each region to work with the Bylaws Committee on this project,” Chuck McGuire, Chair of the 2019 Bylaws Committee, led a discussion on the proposed revision of the SUAA bylaws. After much discussion and debate, the SUAA Bylaws Revision was adopted by a vote of 87 to 5. (See attached [below] for the newly adopted *SUAA Bylaws*.)

On Thursday, June 27 the Board of Directors recessed at 4:30 pm, the end of the first bylaws discussion.

President Linda Guinn called the meeting back to order at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, June 28.

John Carr and Matt Maloney discussed actions of the recent General Assembly and offered comments on the problems with many of the proposed solutions to the pension funding problem. Tampering with the ramp and taking pension holidays will probably not solve the problem at hand.

SURS Director Martin Noveen and SURS Legislative Director Kristin Hooch brought SUAA directors up to date on changes at SURS. Buyout options were discussed in some depth. They also answered questions from the directors.

The following Executive Committee Members were elected:

Vice President: Pat Eckert, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Secretary: Cathy Carruthers, Lewis and Clark Community College

Regional Director (University): Colleen Rock Ellis, Governor's State University -Region 1

Regional Director (University): Steve Cunningham, Northern Illinois University-Region 2

Regional Director (Community College): Linda Harper, Richland Community College-Region 3

President Linda Guinn reappointed William Peterman and Leo Welch as co-chairs of the Legislative Committee which the Board approved by unanimous consent.

SUAA Foundation Chair Jan Cook reported on projects of the SUAA Foundation including a survivors' bookmark and five new SUAA Foundation scholarships.

Melinda Carr and Mary Jeans, SUAA Membership Committee Co-Chairs, gave the Membership Report and reported on the results of the recent Spirit Contest. Winners were announced: Elgin Community College, Governors State University, Illinois State University, John Wood Community College and Kankakee Community College. In addition, chapters were recognized for having the Highest Net Gain of Membership for 2018. Those chapters were: First Place – College of Lake County; Second Place – Kankakee Community College; honorable mentions – Heartland Community College and Lakeland Community College. SUAA continues to lose members and chapters were encouraged to try one new thing in the year ahead.

SUAA Treasurer Larry Alferink gave the Treasurer's report. He emphasized the importance of a new line in the SUAA budget for donations to SUAA's general fund and the need for additional funding.

Executive Director Linda Brookhart reported on SUAA's progress this year; both legislative and administrative.

Linda Guinn offered the SUAA President's Report.

The floor was opened to general comments and suggestions from the Directors.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. on Friday, June 28.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Davis, SUAA Secretary

submitted to SUAA President and Executive Director on July 17, 2019