

Minutes of the Illinois Club Board
Wednesday, 21 October 2009, 7:00 pm
Vivian Larson's home

Present: Sandy Camargo, Debbie Day, Bryan Endres, Susan Haney, Jenny Kokini, Vivian Larson, Christina Myers, Ted Rowland, Pat Thiessen, Mary Jo Thomsen

Minutes of the September Board meeting were accepted as written. The minutes of the Board meeting in May were also approved (something that had been omitted at the September meeting).

President's Report: Susan Haney

The All Employee Expo: The Expo was held from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on 20 October at the Illini Union. The Club had a nicely skirted table; there was no cost associated with it. Susan reported that she was encouraged by the interest shown by people who stopped by for information about the Club. The first 2 ½ hours were particularly busy. Christina Myers suggested that next year we ought to offer a raffle of some kind as a way to get people's email addresses.

Scholarships: Susan reported that the plan to increase the Purnell awards to \$2,000 and to pick some nonwinners from the previous applicant pool was impractical because midyear grants cause financial complications for the award winners. The money will be rolled over for next year's scholarship awards: we will have seven Purnells at \$2,000 each and five Make-a-Difference scholarships at \$2,000 each, plus the Ikenberry Award of \$4,500. This should leave about \$3,300 in the account on 30 June 2011. This plan has been passed by the Scholarship Committee and the Executive Committee.

The Purnell money will be added back into the TIC Fund on 30 June 2010, to avoid double accounting issues by the UIF.

There have been some problems with the Purnell awards, which have still not been paid out. Debbie Day reported that the situation has potentially been resolved. The awards will be paid out of the TIC Income Fund, which will now be receiving all the income from the TIC and Purnell Funds. This will eliminate problems for next year when the Purnell Fund is no longer a separate entity.

Scholarship Fund Agreements: The new TIC Fund Agreement has now passed through the University's bureaucracy. The Haney Fund has been sent to the University as well. Judy and Stan Ikenberry will probably revise their agreement when things settle down a bit for Stan, perhaps next year.

Contact information: Email addresses for key Board members have been set up by position, rather than by name. Sending a note to president@theillinoisclub.org will automatically be forwarded to the personal email account of whoever is occupying that office at the time. It is hoped that this system will require less revising due to changes in the Board and that it will make it easier for members and others to decide who to contact. The same procedure has been put in place for the

interest groups. It was mentioned that some of the interest-group chairs do not use email. The decision was made to list the 3rd VP as the contact person for those groups. This list will be published in the next newsletter.

Thank you gift for Holiday Party: Susan brought up the question of buying a gift for the Whites to thank them for hosting the Holiday Party. The decision was to follow precedent and give them a tile for their collection, but not to give them a more elaborate gift as a farewell gesture.

Honorary members for this year are the Whites, the Hermans, and the Easters. Mary White has been invited to be our guest at the Scholarship Brunch, and she has tentatively agreed to come. The Ikenberrys haven't been formally asked as of yet.

Programs, 1st VP: Mary Jo Thomsen

Holiday Party: Everything has been arranged for the party, which will be Thursday, 10 December, 5:30–7:00pm at the President's House. It will be an Open House, so people can arrive and leave as they wish. There will be heavy hors-d'oeuvres, bite-sized desserts, and wine.

The Scholarship Brunch will be held on Saturday, 6 March, 10:15–12:15. The location will probably be the Hawthorn Suites. The date for the Spring Luncheon has not been set yet, pending the choosing of a speaker. The location is likely to be the Hawthorn Suites as well.

The Fall Expo was very successful, but attendance was down somewhat because we had picked a date that created a conflict for many people. Susan proposed having a fixed day for the Expo to avoid this problem in the future. She suggested that the Fall Expo always be held on the Monday after Labor Day (second Monday in September), which should help us to avoid conflicts with events at Krannert, with athletic events, and other activities that members might be interested in.

The Murder Mystery: There will be no Murder Mystery event this year, due to its high cost and the tepid response we got from the members who attended the Fall Expo.

Campus Tours: Mary Jo is trying to set up a tour of the new Memorial Stadium for April, which would be followed by a light meal hosted by one of our members. There will also be a tour of the new, green Business Instructional Facility. To enhance the "green-ness" of the experience, we may also try to tour the U of I's Gable Home, built by UI students, which won second prize at the Solar Decathlon recently. Susan will work on setting this up, hopefully for November.

Newcomers: Bryan Endres

Tailgating: Our Club's tailgate party at the UI football games has been noticed. Bryan and Jody have been contacted by Bush's Baked Beans. Bush's is running a contest to find the best tailgate party in the country. Their offer is intriguing: they provide a 65-inch TV, games, baked beans, entry to the grilling contest, foam fingers, etc. Bryan and Jody are cautious, however: they want to look into it to be sure that Bush's won't take over the event. They are also concerned that loaning our parking permits to Bush's would be a misuse of them.

Newcomers' Wine and Cheese Party will be held at Jody and Bryan's home in Urbana, on Saturday 7 November, 7–9:00 pm.

Interest Groups: Cathy Williams

Cathy was not present at the meeting. Susan noted that Cathy will need to set a date for the Nominating Committee to meet.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Day

As of 30 September, our income was \$7,747.42; expenses totaled \$2,319.96. Dues received totaled \$5,966.96.

Membership: Christina Myers

Christina reported that, as of this meeting, we have 330 members, which she breaks down as 19 newcomers, 175 individual members, and 155 couples. The total membership number is accurate; the individual breakdown numbers are not yet accurate. Christina and Sandy will go through the forms this weekend to make sure all the data, including member status, is updated from last year's records since there is now some urgency in getting our mailing lists and directory listings accurate.

General Publicity: Susan Haney

Susan reported that she has placed ads in *Inside Illinois* for the Newcomers Wine and Cheese party. She plans to do an ad for the Ikenberry note cards and prints later this year, if that is acceptable to the Ikenberrys. Christina also suggested Susan look into contacting TV morning shows to publicize our note cards and other items for scholarship fundraisers.

Webmaster: Birgit McCall

Birgit was not present at the meeting, but Susan reported that Google calendar links have been set up already for some of the Interest Groups.

Corresponding Secretary: Vivian Larson

Vivian sent a sympathy card to Paula Watson, on the loss of her husband, William. Get well cards were sent to Marguerite Maguire, Joan Bazzetta, Betty Hill, and Joyce Wakeland.

On a related note: Patricia Simpson has set up a **Facebook page** for the Club. This can be a terrific resource: a bulletin board for Club information, but also a way for members to announce personal news and to share information about achievements, weddings, births, trips, and so on. Susan will get a small article about the Facebook page into the November newsletter, to encourage people to sign up.

Scholarships: Susan Haney

Susan reported that the websites have been updated, except for Women's Resources, who have been unresponsive so far to problems.

100 posters were made for each scholarship type. Marcy Joncich and Sandi Thomas have distributed them all over campus. Susan will contact academic advisers in Illiac and Education.

The \$3,000 from the Ikenberrys has been split: \$1,500 to the Ikenberry Fund, and \$1,500 to the TIC Fund. We also have received what is probably the last of the Purnell estate. It was just over \$9,000.

Ikenberry Note Cards and Prints: If we sell three more prints, we will be in the black. 25% of the prints have been sold. 26% of the note cards have been sold.

The paper the prints are printed on is fairly sturdy, but still damageable, and Judy would like us to have them shrink-wrapped and foam boarded, which will cost \$8 per print. We plan to do this, and, to cover the additional cost, we will raise the price of all prints to \$85 after Judy's show at the Alumni Center closes.

We have permission from Linda Katehi to make prints from her painting of the Hallene Gateway for the spring. The Rooster print is also proving popular, and we may make note cards of it as well.

Tiles: Some tiles were sold at the Employee Resource Fair. We have 16 blue tiles and 7 brown tiles left.

UIF: The UIF will allow us to make a link to their website so people can make credit-card donations to The Illinois Club. The UIF will take about a 2% fee from our operations budget to provide this service. The Board is interested in exploring this possibility on a temporary basis, to see if this is something our members are interested in doing.

The IU Bazaar: A booth at the Bazaar will cost \$150. The Symphony Guild has offered to let us share their booth, but we are unwilling to do this, since "sharing" amounts to giving us a sliver of their table and leaving them to publicize our Club and make all the sales. Last year we just broke even. This year, having the note cards and prints to offer makes people confident that we would do well. The Board agreed that we should get a booth of our own. Susan will take care of the paperwork.

New Business

Golden Members: Christina Myers has counted 9 Golden Members (people who have been members for 50 years or more). We will look into paying for their meals and other ways of honoring them at the Spring Luncheon.

The next Board Meeting will be 27 January 2010 at Pat Thiessen's house, in Urbana.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Camargo
Acting Recording Secretary