

RENAISSANCE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING Minutes

May 6, 2024, at 10 am.

Zoom

Officers	Present	Members at Large	Present
President, Deborah Seiler	x	Carol Barake	x
Vice President, Debbie Martinez	x	Dale Good	x
Secretary, Susan Brackenhoff	x	Janet Heath	x
Controller, Norv Wellsfry	x	Frank Martinez	x
Past President, Ken Cross	x	Kathryn Tobias	
		Vacant	

Committee Chairs	Present		Present
C&M Richard Atkinson	x	Program Darryl Freeman	x
Fin/Ad Norv Wellsfry	x	Resource Dev. Mike Pidd	
Forum Michele Finerty	x	Scholarship Laurye Brownfield	x
Forum Co-Chair Janet Heath	x	Tech Co-Chair Sarah Ryan-Roberts	x
LRP Ken Cross	x	Tech Co-chair Tom Nelson	x
MDCE Debbie Martinez	x	Volunteer Services Carol Barake	x
Nominating Susan Brackenhoff	x		

Liaisons/Guests	Present		Present
Website Jennifer Kerr	x	Weekly Update Hollis Kulwin	x
Weekly Update/Constant Contact Loretta Burdeaux		Sac State Liaison, College of SSIS /Dean Dianne Hyson	x
Recorder Jim Hodges		Office Manager Amber Korb	x
Guests: Deanna Hanson, Jackie Lamb, Dave Ferguson, Anne Putt, Cathy Minicucci	x x x x x	Board Liaison Diana Gin	

- b. Non-renewing Member Survey Results – Debbie shared a report from non-members going back to 2020. Reasons cited for leaving included aging out, mobility issues, caring for relatives and issues getting to campus. Some said just getting the survey made them want to join again. Some conclusions are that we can expect attrition each year. We need more programming for younger members and address concerns about the quality of our programs. Ken suggested a Weekly Update article about the value of the \$100 membership.
- c. New Member Survey Results – Cathy Minicucci sent a survey to 416 new members, 54 responded. They participated in a wide variety of programs. Program quality was rated highly, with in-person classes getting the highest ratings of Excellent. Many new members felt welcomed at programs and social events, but a sizable group did not. There were excellent comments for the Renaissance Society to consider in future planning, such as having more in person classes on Friday and continuing to work on program quality and opportunities for engagement. There was some negative feedback about the quality of classes, feeling like a high school group not being welcomed. MDCE can take results and discuss improvements. Deborah thanked Cathy for her thorough report and volunteering to do the survey
- d. Program Leaders Workshop – Darryl's written report included the draft agenda for the May workshop. All should review the agenda and send comments to Darryl or Deborah ASAP. The Program Leaders Workshop will be held in the CSUS Foothill Suite at 8:30 on May 31.
- e. Code of Conduct – Darryl submitted a draft revised code of conduct for consideration.
- f. May 19 Social Event – Debbie announced the Spring Social will be May 19 from 1:00-4:00 at the Nepenthe Club House in Campus Commons. It will be a catered, casual event. RSVPs are requested by May 13. About 40 members have responded to date.
- g. Committee Volunteer Task Lists – Deborah will help recruit any needed committee volunteers.
- h. Regency Place – has offered to sponsor an RS activity. Perhaps refreshments.
- i. Library Program MOU - Deborah is investigating what is necessary to work with Sac State to approve the MOU for the library program.
- j. New Friday Diversity Series has been developed that will provide programming on Friday afternoons in order to offer more variety and keep members on campus for our Friday Forums.
- k. ACC - RS was featured in the ACC newsletter. This relationship takes a long time for fruition.

5. Written Committee Reports:

As Submitted. Statements of no report: Long Range Planning, Nominating

6. Verbal Reports by Committee Chairs:

- a. Finance and Administration – Norv: The staff 365 review is being conducted. Board members may enter comments.
- b. Forum – Michele: Information cards to include in speaker thank you notes are being printed.
- c. Membership, Diversity, Community Engagement – Debbie: Upcoming tabling events are Rancho Cordova Senior Resource Fair and Senior Pride LGBTQ+ Fair at Hart Center and Fair

Oaks Harvest Fair. The Warren Bonta Diversity and Inclusion Award will be presented to St. Andrew's AME Church at the Annual Meeting. Dora Dugars and Debbie will present the award to Rev. Dr. Jason Thompson and Kimberly Washington.

- d. Nominating – Susan: All Board members need to help recruit for Board positions.
- e. Program – Darryl expressed new appreciation for the work done by RS staff Amber and Loreen. Cathy Minicucci is starting to plan a commemoration of the American revolution program. Anyone interested in participating can attend the zoom meeting on March 28 at 2:00 pm.
Darryl's monthly report has a revised draft code of conduct. Since committee members have heard numerous complaints, a sub committee was formed to address code of conduct standards. RS needs to create safe places for civil discourse and still protect diverse conversation. The code will be discussed at the program leaders workshop. This code will apply to both leaders and RS members.
- f. Resource Development – Mike: See monthly report.
- g. Scholarship – Laurye contacted the seven scholarship recipients. Mike Pidd created a video of their bios and photos for the Annual Meeting.
- h. Technology – Sarah/Tom: The membership form has been reviewed and will be given to Steve Grondin for approved changes. Application for membership will open on June 1. Tom is meeting weekly with a student group from the Small Business Center to address registration issues.
- i. Volunteer Services – Carol reported the gerontology potluck will be May 13 at Folsom Hall. July 3 is the physical therapy assessment. Deborah asked that donation amounts to the ASI Food Pantry be reported. Carol has been in contact with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkeley to learn more about the recent reorganization of their member volunteer services program.
- j. Communications and Marketing –Rick: Kathy Hart designed an attractive flyer for the Summer Diversity Program. The committee is exploring additional marketing opportunities including live radio.

NOTE: At the next Board meeting, the Communications & Marketing Committee will move to the top with a subsequent rotation of committee reports.

7. Working Groups:

Summer Program, 2024 - Deborah: An exciting program is planned for eight weeks.

Center for Small Business – Amber is working on registration system operations.

Retreat Working Group – Rick asked that Board members start forming ideas to maintain success as well as keep afloat. The retreat is scheduled for the morning of August 9.

8. New or Urgent Business:

Registration and participation in the SIGs need to be addressed. Dan Rooney organizes the SIGS. There should be a policy concerning the closed SIGs that are very confusing to members. We have some SIGS that are not using the registration system.

9. Key Dates:

May 3 – First Friday Pizza
May 3 – Voting for Board of Directors ends
May 10 – Annual Meeting
May 19 – Spring Social Event
May 31 – Program Leaders Workshop
June 7 – Summer Program begins

10. Adjourn The motion to adjourn was made by Rick and seconded by Ken at 12:10 pm.

Next Meeting June 3, 2024 Dunbarton Cabana Clubhouse

Submitted by Susan Brackenhoff, Secretary