

**The Association of The University of Akron Retirees (AUAR)**  
**Executive Board Meeting Friday, August 28, 2025 Minutes**  
**Held in person and Zoom**

- I. **Call to Order:** The Board meeting was called to order on August 28, 2025 by Vice President Richard Milford at 10:00 am.

II. **Welcome and Announcements**

Members attending: Doug Hausknecht, Bob Huff, Richard Milford, Dan Sheffer, , Tom Vukovich, Mary Verstraete, Martha Vye, Mel Vye, George Haritos, Ali Hajjafar, Harvey Sterns, Kathy DuBose, Linda Sugarman

Zoom: Rita Klein

Excused: Diane Vukovich, Richard Steiner, Carl Lieberman, Tom Nichols

- III. **Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from June were presented for approval.

Martha Vye motioned to approve; George Haritos seconded. The minutes were approved without correction.

IV. **Treasurer's Report :**

**June 2025**

UA Account income: Membership dues                      \$ 225.00

Total income    \$ 225.00

UA Account expenses:    \$ 0.00

Total Expenses    \$ 0.00

	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial Balance	\$12005.56	\$300.68	\$12306.24
Income	\$225.00	\$44.00	\$269.00
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Final Balance	\$12230.56	\$294.68	\$12525.24*
Final Balance			
June 2024	\$12714.80	\$141.68	\$12856.48*

\* These include dues payments for future years.

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**July 2025**

UA Account income: Membership dues	\$ 570.00
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Total income	\$ 570.00
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UA Account expenses	\$	0.00
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Total Expenses	\$	0.00
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	UA Account	Petty Cash	Totals
Initial Balance	\$12230.56	\$294.68	\$12525.24
Income	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$570.00
Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Final Balance	\$12800.56	\$294.68	\$13095.24*
Final Balance			
July 2024	\$13824.80	\$141.68	\$13966.48*

\* These include dues payments for future years. \$4896.00 as of 08/08/2025.

Dan handed out an accounting of the Dues payments over the years:

Dues payments for future years 08/08/2025)

Life memberships:

Year purchased

2022-23 L32 (38 life members)(6 years/member)(\$12/year) = 2736.00

2023-24 L33 (10 life members)(7 years/member)(\$15/year) = 1050.00

2024-25 L34 (6 life members)(8 years/member)(\$15/year) = 720.00

2025-26 L35 (2 life members) (9 years/member) (\$15/year) = 270.00

Total Life Membership payments for future years: = \$4776.00

Additional yearly membership payments:      8 years X \$15    =      120.00

Total Dues payments for future years: = \$4896/00

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Tom Vukovich moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Bob Huff seconded. The motion passed.

- V. Corresponding Secretary:** Linda Sugarman reported that she sent a Get Well card to Dan Sheffer and a Sympathy card to Diane Vukovich on her sister's death.

**VI. Committee Reports:**

**A. Programs:** Tom Vukovich reported the agenda for the fall lunches:

September 17 Dr. Jon Miller, Director of the UA Press and Professor of English. Book Review "Akron at 200: A Bicentennial History"

October 15 Dr. Gwen Price, Senior VP and Provost, The University of Akron . Fall Enrollment, Academic Programs and adjusting to issues in Higher Education Today

November 19 Dr. Mary Verstraete, Associate Professor Emeritus Biomedical Engineering, The University of Akron. 50 States Bucket List – The Last Four.

December 17 Holiday Party

Other Dates: November 6 Soup and Chili Supper, Goodyear Metro park, April 24 AUAR Road Trip, May 15 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Lobster & Suds.

Dan confirmed that each talk will be videotaped.

Tom mentioned that we will still be using Quaker Square and Aramark through the end of Spring and the Alumni office will continue to sponsor 50% of the Set-up.

**B. Membership:** Mel Vye reported that 57 memberships have expired since June 30<sup>th</sup> and this is more that usual. He then handed out a list of those members for the Board to review. He passed out letters that would be mailed to them for Board members to add a note to those they knew personally. Prior to the end of the meeting, all letters were completed and readied for mailing.

**C. Political Action:** Dan Sheffer reported that the Board Investments have returned 10.4% yet many are still complaining.

He reported that House Bill 96 will make changes in the Board Rules: The Chair and Vice Chair of STRS cannot be retired teachers, they must come from the members appointed by the legislature. The legislature is trying to

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get all retirement systems under a single board. Many people in Ohio have “pension envy”. He also reported that medical premiums will continue to increase.

**D. Benefits:** Linda Sugarman reported that The University of Akron has put into effect new rules for tuition remission for wives and dependent children. Documentation will be required including marriage certificates and birth certificates. Children over the age of 24 must have documentation that shows they are dependents.

**E. Faculty Senate:** Doug Hausknecht had no report.

**F. University & Community Services/Website:** Dan Sheffer reported that all documentation has been sent to Danielle for posting.

**G. Scholarship:** Rita Klein had no report.

**H. Newsletter:** Martha reported that the newsletter is complete. A question was posed to the group regarding the inclusion of personal phone numbers on the newsletter which is then posted on the website. It was agreed to leave them on the newsletter.

**VII. Old Business:** The By-Laws Committee will be meeting again to complete their work this fall. It was mentioned that the changes must be brought the Board for approval and then the membership will need to vote on it at a general membership meeting/Luncheon.

Rita read out a list of the Campus Helper that she had and the Board agreed it was complete. They will be sent a Thank You note and an invitation to join us at a future luncheon.

**VIII. New Business:** Mary announced that she and Kathy DuBose will miss the next two Board meetings as they are attending the 14<sup>th</sup> class of Leadership Akron NEXT. Mary requested that someone take the minutes at these two meetings. Harvey agreed to take the minutes at the September meeting and Dan will record both meetings on Zoom.

**IX. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:10am.

**Respectfully Submitted: Mary C. Verstraete, Recording Secretary**

**The next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2025 at 10:00 am in the Infocision Board Room.**