

## HCAA Board Meeting

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Notes

Present: Carole Bomba, Jaci Carroll, Hazel Rielki, Michele Ukleja, Jim Edstrom, Linda Kolbusz-Kosan, Sharon Martin, Michael Nejman, Kathy Hanahan

Meeting was called to order at 3:12 pm

**Highlights from Last Meeting:** Kathy shared that at our last meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> (which was our annual meeting after President Proctor's lunch presentation), we spent quite a bit of time discussing the upcoming general election on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Key points included how to make sure you're registered, registration deadlines, early voting dates, how to research candidates, and a reminder to vote through the entire ballot, including the important Supreme Court judge positions. We noted that we had planned to make another \$100 donation to the Feed my Starving Children organization on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, when several members were signed up to volunteer. We also noted that we had voted to make a \$1000 donation to the Harper Hawks Care Fund last year. Also, we encouraged members to get involved in our various social activities to help stay connected with former colleagues. And we asked members to consider serving on our Board, as we're always open to new faces and ideas. We are especially interested in identifying someone who enjoys using their leadership skills to step in to serve as our new President Elect.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sharon noted that since our last meeting, we made the \$100 donation to Feed my Starving Children, and we paid \$120 for the two registrations to the SUAA Fall Meeting for Carole and Linda. We had a deposit of \$113.80 on September 27<sup>th</sup>, and \$93.38 on October 17<sup>th</sup>, bringing our current balance to \$6,102.52.

**Membership Report:** Hazel mentioned she'd learned that one of our former colleagues, Jan Cook, has passed away. We will try to get her obituary posted soon. We currently have 283 active members; we've had some new additions, as well as a few lapses. Carole suggested we try to recruit new members at a table in the PAC before the All Campus meeting in January. Michael suggested we have a slide up on the screen with our info before the presentation starts to help recruit people, and that we contact Jodie in HR to see who might be retiring soon so that we can reach out to them.

**Communications Report:** Michele shared that there were quite a few people who opened the MailChimp emails about the annual meeting and luncheon, and that as always, the notices with the obituaries of our colleagues get opened quite frequently.

**Social Report:** Jaci shared that the Feed my Starving Children event went well on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Seven people had signed up, and the HCAA team had the assistance of a young man who needed a team to work with. It had been suggested that perhaps we should make bigger donations to the organization when we volunteer, as it costs \$80 to feed just one child for a year. It was suggested that perhaps we should increase the amount to \$200.

Our next book club meeting is Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. The book selected is *In an Instant*, by Suzanne Redfearn. The following meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 1st at 3:00 pm. The book selected for that date is *Exiles*, by Christina Baker Kline.

Michael shared that there will be a campus production of *Lettie*, by playwright Boo Killebrew (award-winning writer who has written for *Longmire*, and *Mrs. America*) on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Killebrew will be on hand afterward to do a Q and A and book-signing with the audience. He suggested that we encourage our HCAA members to attend this production.

**Legislative Report:** Jim reported that the major political news was the results of the November 8<sup>th</sup> election. Democrats won the top executive positions. Incumbent Tammy Duckworth remains our Senator, and in the U.S. House, Democrats hold 13 seats to the Republicans' 5 seats. Currently, the number of State Senate Democrat seats stands at 41 to the Republicans' 18 seats. State House Democrats hold 73 seats to 45 Republican seats. Also of note --- the District 15 Moving Forward referendum passed, with 62.67% voting Yes, and 37.33% voting No. Amendment 1 also passed, with 58.41% voting Yes, and 41.59% voting No.

Linda KK noted that the Illinois General Assembly has announced the fall veto session, which will take place November 15th, 16th, 17th, 29th, and 30th, and December 1<sup>st</sup>. The current GA members will still be seated for this veto session.

**Website Report/Old Business:** Karen wasn't able to join us today, but Carole shared that she has been working hard to learn the ins and outs of maintaining the website, and is doing a good job of getting our news posted. Kathy and Linda will get a meeting set up with Karen soon to do more updating.

**Retiree Updates:** Jeanne couldn't join us today to talk about the list of retirees and their locations, so Carole will send her an email to check in and see where the project is at this time.

**New Business:** Carole and Linda will have info available for us after attending the SUAA Fall Meeting later this week. We will post highlights. Carole asked everyone to keep individuals in mind who might be interested in serving as our new President Elect.

Of interest: Jim's book *Avenues of Transformation: Illinois's Path from Territory to State* has been published and is selling well, especially after an appearance on NPR. Linda KK noted that fellow member Pascuala Herrera also recently released a new book called *Life is a Garden to Cultivate*.

Sharon asked if Jim would be willing to share the link to the *Inside Harper* online newsletter with us, as Linda Frank used to do until she lost access to it. Jim agreed.

**Next Meeting: Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 pm via Zoom**

Meeting adjourned at 3:51 pm

Respectfully submitted ---

Kathy Hanahan