At its 16 January 2024 meeting, a first ever meeting on Teams, the ULARP Board welcomed Donna Bartman, its new ex officio member from the University Club Board, approved the minutes of 21 November 2023, and addressed the following items of business and information.

President Sande Johnson-Byers reported that the 30 November 2023 retiree reception went well, with several new retirees joining ULARP. Too, the Holiday Luncheon drew 55 attendees, including members and invited guests, an 80% attendance rate. The Board agreed to defer implementation of the Distinguished Retiree Award until early 2025 and will finalize the details and timeline at its next meeting.

Dale Billingsley encouraged Board members to participate in AROHE seminars, as ULARP is now a member of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education. If they prove to be fruitful, we will invite the membership to tune in. He also circulated a copy of a History of ULARP that he compiled by interviewing past officers and members. He continues to seek interviews with those who may have more information. Dale reported that he was contacted by a representative of the Donovan Scholars, asking that ULARP promote their program that allows seniors over the age of 65 who live in Kentucky to attend U of L. ULARP will investigate and recommend the program in newsletters and perhaps emails to members. As editor of the ULARP Newsletter, he noted that the current edition will go out January 29. The following newsletter will include a report on the benefits of will preparation and probate services to those with MetLife insurance.

Sande reported that HR sponsored workshops have resumed. She noted that several suggested update corrections she sent to HR regarding dental and vision coverage were implemented. She will enquire whether ULARP members have access to EAP.

Bev Sawyer Daily reported that ULARP currently has 274 active members and that annual dues are now being collected. Reminders will be sent. Since October 2023, 14 people have accepted a one-year free membership. A working group is being formed to explore other ways to increase ULARP membership. Josh Hawkins reported that the Alumni Association receives batch data on retirees, and it can communicate with retirees on behalf of ULARP. Bev will share ULARP data with the Alumni Quarterly.

Elaine Wise reported that several members of Faculty Senate expressed concern about a Kentucky legislative bill that would allow firing of tenured faculty. The Staff Senate welcomed Chief Green who discussed the recent Rave Alert about a shooter at Manual High School. Both senates heard reports from the Provost on enrollment and the compensation survey. Donna Bartman reported that Creative Dining is no longer managing the University Club; the new General Manager is Ron Zorn, while Donna is doing inventory and helping with systems. The buffet is now back for lunch and catered events are secure. A weekly newsletter to members provides updates on coming events and the parking code.

The spring social event will take place on Sunday, February 18, with pizza at Berno’s, followed by a women’s basketball game at 1. A seminar on trusts will be held on 5 March 2024 at the University Club at 11 am, with John Dotson of Kentucky Elder-Law presenting. Cardiac Health will be the topic for the 8 April 2024 seminar at the Club, led by Dr. Morris Weiss, a 1958 UofL Medical School graduate. A seminar on Hospice Care is under consideration. A Bats baseball game is being considered for August. The next meeting of the Board is 20 February 2024 at the University Club.