

Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers, Inc.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 1: CLASSES AND FEES

Individual voting memberships shall consist of the below-listed classes which shall be conferred upon payment of the following fees:

- Regular member \$15.00 to \$199.99
- Students and seniors over 65 years of age \$10.00
- Spouses and family members at same address\$1.00
- Life \$200.00 or more contributed during any one calendar year

RESOLUTION 2: AMENDMENTS

Standing resolutions shall express the policy of the Executive Committee toward the administration of the Corporation, and may be enacted by simple majority vote of the Executive Committee. Standing Resolutions of the Executive Committee may be modified or rejected by the general membership.

Adopted September 18, 2004 by the membership.

RESOLUTION 3: CLASSES AND FEES

That Resolution #1 “Classes and Fees” of membership in the By Laws of September 16, 2004 be changed to read:

- Student\$15.00
- Senior (65+)\$15.00
- Individual\$25.00
- Family\$30.00
- Advocate\$50.00
- First Class.....\$100.00
- Life\$500.00

Adopted by the Membership October 13, 2007

Michael Whims
Chair

James Wallington
Secretary

RESOLUTION 4

ESTABLISH FOUR (4) ELECTED COMMITTEES

Be it Resolved, that the Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers hereby establish four (4) new elected committees; each of which will be coordinated by an At-Large Executive Committee member as follows:

1. Membership Committee, to be chaired initially by Rich Vavra-Musser as Membership Coordinator, with the following general responsibilities:
 - New member recruitment
 - Member renewal
 - New member orientation
 - Member activation

2. Communications Committee, to be chaired initially by Kay Chase as Communications Coordinator, with the following general responsibilities:
 - Newspaper content coordination
 - Website content coordination
 - Outside presentation coordination and record keeping
 - Outside event coordination and record keeping

3. Public Information Committee, to be chaired initially by Steve Sobel as Public Information Coordinator, with the following general responsibilities:
 - Member education on the political process and officials
 - News and information dissemination to members

4. Meeting Committee, to be chaired initially by Clark Charnetski as Meetings Coordinator, with the following general responsibilities:
 - MARP meeting reservation and set-up
 - MARP meeting speaker invitation

Approved (January, 2008) by a majority of the Executive Committee members voting by e-mail as evidenced by the attached e-mail voting responses.

John DeLora
Chair

Mike Whims
Executive Director

Hugh Gurney, Secretary

RESOLUTION 5

**REVISION OF THE TITLES AND DUTIES OF CERTAIN
AT LARGE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND
THEIR COMMITTEES**

Be it Resolved, that the Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers revises the titles and duties of certain At Large Committee Members and their committees originally established in Resolution #4 of January, 2008 as follows:

1. The name of the Public Information Committee is changed to the Governmental/Public Affairs Committee. Responsibilities of this committee are changed to read
 - Liaison with federal, state and local government officials.
 - Liaison with allied advocacy groups.

2. Responsibilities of the Meeting Committee are changed to read:
 - MARP Meeting Reservation and set-up in Coordination with the appropriate Regional Chapter Chair.
 - Program arrangements in coordination with the appropriate Chapter Chair.

Approved March 8, 2014 by a majority of the Executive Committee Members voting.

Robert Tischbein
Chair

Hugh D. Gurney
Secretary

RESOLUTION #6

A RESOLUTION TO INVEST THE SO-CALLED “PRATT FUND” MONIES WITH A CURRENT VALUE OF \$17,141.26, INTO THE VANGUARD INDEX FUND CALLED TOTAL STOCK MARKET INDEX ADMIRAL CLASS SHARES (VTSAX)

According to John DeLora, founder and longtime Chair of the Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers (MARF), the “Pratt Fund” was established in the 1980’s with seed money from the dissolution of the Friends of the Grand Trunk (Grand Trunk Commuter’s Association). The Fund was named for Edmund Pratt, who started the Friends of the Grand Trunk *See attached letter, dated 27 March 2014, from John DeLora.*

The original intent of the “Pratt Fund” was to create an endowment fund, the proceeds of which could eventually be used to fund operations of MARF. The seed monies were originally invested in *American Fund Investment Company of America Fund (AIVSX)*. For many years, additions were made to the investment fund with 10% of the annual membership dues collected and a large portion of any large donations.

On the advice of then-Treasurer, David Randall, the decision was made (*see Meeting Minutes, 16 June 2012*) to move the “Pratt Fund” monies into the *Vanguard Total Stock Market Index Investment Company of America Fund*. This amount was placed in the MARF checking account at JPMorgan Chase Bank, with the stated intention to reinvest it into the *Vanguard Index Fund* called *Total Stock Market Index Admiral Class Shares (VTSAX)*. The transaction was not completed at that time.

Be it Resolved, that the Executive Committee of the Michigan Association of Railroad Passengers directs Jennie Merckel, current MARF Treasurer, to move \$17,141.26 from the MARF checking account to the *Vanguard Index Fund*, called *Total Stock Market Index Admiral Class Shares (VTSAX)*.

Approved 16 August 2014 by a majority of the Executive Committee members voting.

Robert Tischbein
Chair

Hugh D. Gurney
Secretary

Attach fax of letter, dated 27 March 2014, from John DeLora.



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John DeLora
P.O. Box 594
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

27 March 2014

I can't guarantee the exact dates and figures given here. I have almost no MARP records, so what follows is from memory.

The Pratt Fund was established roughly around 1980. The seed money came from the dissolution of the Friends of the Grand Trunk, (Grand Trunk commuters' Association) which had been started and headed by Edmund Pratt. I believe the amount was a little over \$1,000. We received another donation from the dissolution of the Friends of Michigan Central Station; I believe that too, was just over \$1,000. We received another major donation from a woman in the east I believe it was for \$5,000. None of us knew who she was, but she said she admired the work we were doing. I found out later she had made similar gifts to NARP, NY ARP and some other state ARP's

The original idea was that it would be an endowment fund, with the ultimate goal that someday the earnings of the fund would be enough to support MARP's operations. Terry Donnelly was Treasurer at the time. We invested the original money in a mutual fund, Investment Corporation of America, a fund in the American Funds group, and we kept the assets there until after David Randall became Treasurer. To honor Edmund Pratt, we named this endowment fund after him, calling it the Pratt Fund.

The original plan was to take 10% of dues each year and invest in the fund, plus take 90% of any large gifts and invest them also. The balance of any gifts would go into our regular checking account.

Officers

Chairman - Robert Tischbein
Vice-Chairman - Larry Krieg
Secretary - Hugh Gurney
Treasurer - Jeanie Merckel

Regional Chairpersons

Detroit Metro - Robert Patterson
East/Central Michigan - Rosemary Horvath
Northern Michigan - Don Monteith
Western Michigan - Warren Fritz

At-Large Executives

Kay Chase
John Langdon
Kathleen Newell
Jim Wallington

RESOLUTION 7: CLASSES AND FEES

In accordance with Article III, Section 3.3 of the Bylaws adopted November 21, 2015 and amended September 24, 2016, ***Be It Resolved*** that Resolution #3 “Classes and Fees” of membership be changed to read:

Student	\$20.00
Senior (65+)	\$20.00
Regular	\$30.00
Family	\$40.00
Advocate	\$50.00
First Class	\$100.00
Life	\$500.00

Adopted by the Executive Committee January 8, 2019

Thomas W. Purmort – Chair

Kay Chase, Acting Secretary

**RESOLUTION 8: ESTABLISH CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS
AND SET TIERS OF SUPPORT**

Be It Resolved, that MARP will use as “Corporate Sponsorships” the following tiers in recognition of financial support for the organization:

Non-Profit.....	\$50
Bronze.....	\$125
Silver.....	\$250
Gold.....	\$500
Platinum.....	\$1,000 or higher

Adopted by the Executive Committee 12 February 2019

Adam Tauno Williams, Chair

Kay Chase, Acting Secretary