

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
at the University of Delaware in Dover

Council Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2018

ATTENDANCE: Cheryl Moore, Betty Ipnar, Anna Moshier, Betsy Patterson, Ronnie Grady, Madelyn Wright, Diana Faison, Rosemary Engle, Phyllis Handler, Caroline Baxter.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The March minutes were approved as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Election:

Anna Moshier announced that there was one nomination submitted from the general membership, Bob Heifetz. While being a longtime instructor, Bob has never been a paid member of Dover OLLI which according to the Bylaws would make him ineligible. There was discussion that Bob had been a member of the Council at one time before the Bylaws were changed. Anna stated that he has been a long-term volunteer instructor which qualified him to be a non-voting member of Council. This is a critical time for Dover OLLI when all voices should be heard. He has been invited to join the Council as a non-voting member. Since he is a member of the Budget Committee, his role will be to present budget matters and provide input in financial discussions. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept Bob Heifetz as a non-voting member of the Dover OLLI Council.

A slate of three candidates was presented by the nominating committee to fill the three offices on the Council: Community Relations – Pat Weaver, Secretary – Caroline Baxter and Travel – Madelyn Wright. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the three candidates as members of the Dover OLLI Council.

Betty Ipnar asked if the Council would consider review the Bylaws with reference to the election of Council members. Cheryl Moore asked the committee (Phyllis Handler, John Grady and Madelyn Wright) to be ready to discuss this at the May meeting.

Anna Moshier questioned a rumor that Rosemary Engle was considering resigning from the Special Events Team. Rosemary voiced her concerns about the amount of work required to provide the luncheons and the small size of her team. Liisa Trala has expressed that she would like to take some time off from OLLI and the team. The other members are not as passionate or have physical limitations which makes planning and participation difficult. The Council members asked her to reconsider. Anna Moshier will make an announcement at the general meeting today

that members are needed for this committee. Anna asked Diana Faison to go over the list of interests that members submitted at time of registration for potential team members.

Proposals for Council Approval:

Diana Faison presented a proposal from the seated exercise class instructors for a DVD to supplement the material they are presently using with a new series of exercises. The cost is \$14.95. A motion was made, seconded and approved to purchase the DVD. The funding will come from the Gift Fund.

TEAM REPORTS:

Travel:

Madelyn Wright reported that the Baltimore trip has been canceled. There were not enough registration and the date conflicted with the defensive drive class. The Travel Team will be working on coming up with several ideas for the fall semester and will try not to conflict with the end-of-session luncheon.

Faculty Relations:

Phyllis Handler reported there will be no orientation for the June session. There is only one new instructor for a one-time presentation.

Member Relations:

Betty Ipnar reported she is preparing for catalog distribution beginning approximate April 17.

Special Events:

Rosemary Engle reported the end-of-semester luncheon was very successful. Those attending enjoyed the dancers, recorder music and potluck luncheon. There was a request for a happy hour in May for the instructors. Anna Moshier said that she will consider this. Ronnie Grady suggested it might be better for the fall semester.

Course Development:

Ronnie Grady reported that the team met Wednesday, March 28, to work on the fall semester. She reported that most of the Thursday lectures are getting finalized. An announcement for class proposals for fall has gone out. The team has received about ten proposals so far, but the goal is to offer 50 courses. Since 2018 is the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr., death, Ronnie approached Dan Pritchett about doing something on his legacy. Dan said he would consider it, although he had something else in mind. Members of the Council suggested Cecil Wilson of the NAACP and Rev. John Moore as other possibilities. Ronnie will ask Joe Bailey about setting up a wine tasting class. Beth Jelich will do a class on holiday customs in different cultures. She would like to include members family holiday recipes. Ronnie asked if anyone had any suggestions to please contact her. The team will be meeting again next week. The deadline for fall courses is May 1. A member suggested contacting Rep. Jeff Spiegelman as a possible instructor.

Community Relations:

Betsy Patterson reported that OLLI will have a booth at the 55+ Expo at Dover Downs on Wednesday, April 18. She will need four volunteers per two-hour time slot. She stressed it is important we have current information to distribute. Anna Moshier assured her the catalogs will be here by the Expo. It has been decided not to do a giveaway because there is no return on the investment. The vendor fee of \$375 was paid from statewide funds. Betsy congratulated the Art Department on a successful show at the Dover Public Library. She would like to put out a press release about the winners for all the sites. Dover OLLI will be registering for the Modern Maturity Center Community Education and Health Fair on June 21. The \$75 registration will be paid from statewide funds. Anna Moshier announced she has taken a full-page ad for \$100 in the Delaware Choral Society performance program. Betsy announced that the team will contact the Dover Public Library about manning a table there on the third Thursday. We would like to try this for a few months to promote the program and attract new members. Anna reported that \$24,335 has been paid for promotion statewide, including Dover. This included over \$5,000 for post cards that went to approximately 11,000 households from Middletown to Milford and the Lewes/Ocean View area.

Scholarship:

Betsy Patterson reported there were no new applications. Ronnie Grady suggested a report be given with number of applications and dollars granted.

STAFF REPORTS:

Diana Faison had nothing to report at this time.

Anna Mosier reported that Diana had visited the Lewes site last week to map out space in preparation for the office move. For the present, we will stay on the same office schedule, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Paula Wood's hours will be reduced. In the past the Council did not meet during the summer, however, Anna recommended that the Council continue to meet during the summer because of the situation. Anna will be reviewing the feedback forms over the next couple of weeks.

Anna distributed a financial statement as of February 28. The program is at a deficit of \$8,288 at the present time. She will present a budget report at today's general membership meeting with a projected FY 19 deficit of \$449. She emphasized that supplies and expenses, which includes the internet and telephone, must be reduced. Some of the measures to reduce these costs are: encouraging the use of online class evaluation instead of paper copies and programing a code into the photocopier to control usage.

She reported the Budget Committee developed the following takeaways:

- new space annual rental cannot exceed \$15,000
- support staff will be decreased by more use of volunteers
- expenses will need to be reduced; i.e., telephone, internet, material costs/copies
- sell \$4,500 of ad space in the catalog annually or fundraising

Anna reported on the Search Teams effort to find a suitable location. The team started with a long list of potential locations, but many locations have had to be crossed off for various reasons. Modern Maturity Center's space in the medical building is out of the question because of the rental fee. Cheryl Moore stated that she has spoken to the present landlord, and he is willing to have a discussion with OLLI. Anna asked Cheryl to set up a meeting between the landlord and the Search Team.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, Monday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Caroline M. Baxter