

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
At the University of Delaware in Dover

Council Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Rosemary Engle, Pat Weaver, Anna Moshier, Joe Bailey, Diana Faison, Marge Felty, Phyllis Handler, Susan Salkin, Sally Cole, Karen Schaub, Caroline Baxter

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Pat Weaver;

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the November 4 meeting were approved as submitted.

STAFF REPORT:

Finance:

Karen Schaub reviewed the financial reports she had prepared as of October 31, 2019. She noted that the scholarships and instructors' discounts are now broken out on the Kent County report. She noted that she is providing the same information in several reports and asked that the Council decide which reports are the most beneficial.

Program:

Anna Moshier reported that a statewide meeting of the OLLI Councils has been scheduled for January 17 beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Wyoming United Methodist Church. UD by the Sea is scheduled for May 19 to 22 at the Atlantic Sands in Rehoboth Beach. The lease for Dover OLLI with the Wyoming United Methodist Church has been renewed for three years. Anna is working on the internet upgrade which will have a cost of \$5,000 with a recurring monthly cost of approximately \$130. Joe Zito is working with the company to get OLLI the best possible deal. Anna suggested a fundraising campaign to raise the \$5,000. Anna and Rosemary Engle had a very productive meeting with John and Trey Paradee. Anna has invited them to the 10th anniversary gala. They were also able to provide some community contacts for the Member Relations Committee to pursue. Anna announced that Lewes OLLI has a contract with Trinity Faith Christian Center as a satellite site. There will be five classes and staff offices there and three classes will remain at the old location. The catalog will be available online on December 6 and goes to the printer on December 9. Sussex membership grew 12% with Bridgeville site. The change to compact the class day which may include a later start time, but not eliminating a day, will not take effect before summer. The switch was made for Dover OLLI members recorded as Lewes OLLI members. Anna clarified the breakeven point for Dover OLLI. Dover needs 65 additional, full-year members to break even

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Affairs:

In Ronnie Grady's absence, Phyllis Handler reported that one course has been dropped from the proposals submitted for the spring term. The course Ronnie Grady had proposed, "Five Critical Issues of Social Concern", will be postponed to a later time due to a concern about the course overlapping with Larry Klepner's course, "Controversial Issues". Ronnie and Beth Jelich are working with the Delaware Public Archives to sponsor a joint lecture featuring Ann Jaffee, a local speaker on her surviving the Holocaust in Poland. Working with the Delaware Public Archives will enable us to reach a wide audience. Phyllis Handler reported that she has reviewed the course evaluations, and they were very good over all. She has had two members express concern about an instructor. She will be making a personal contact with this instructor in the near future.

Scholarship:

No scholarship requests at this time

Travel:

Susan Salkin reported the committee has finalized the plans for the spring trip to the American Revolution Museum on Friday, March 13. The trip will depart from the Delaware Technical and Community College parking and ride. Reservations have been made for the museum and a 56-seat bus. The cost will be \$50 for members and \$55 for non-members with 30 seats being the breakeven point. The fee includes the bus fee, driver tip, museum and audio tour fees. In promotion of the trip, Tuesday lunch-hour talks have been planned. So far, six instructors have signed on to talk. Following the committee's timetable, the bus deposit has been made, the museum and bus reservations have been confirmed, Sally will be developing a draft registration form and an email notice to members will go out mid-December. Payment cannot be accepted at Dover OLLI because of a UD policy about who can accept money. A question was asked about the possibility of accepting credit card payments in Dover. A suggestion was made for setting up a separate Travel Fund to segregate it from the Special Events funds. Anna will start the process to make this possible. Start-up money could be taken from the Gift Fund. The committee's next meeting is January 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Special Events:

Marge Felty reported the committee has not met since the end-of-semester luncheon on November 19. She complimented the committee members on very successful program. The committee will meet on January 13 at 10:00. Marge will contact members before the January 9 Walk-in Registration if volunteers are needed. Anna Moshier reported that members from the Lewes OLLI attended our event to get ideas for changes to their luncheon. Marge asked about advertising and invitations for the 10th anniversary gala in the spring. Anna suggested Sally research with Lewes OLLI did for their 30th anniversary.

Member Relations:

Joe Bailey reported that the committee continues to work on ways to get our information and presentation into the 55+ communities. A new committee member, Tom Garrison, is a member of Spring Meadow and gave the committee some insight into that community's resistance. Rosemary Engle has made arrangements for Joe and Anna Moshier to do a presentation at Champions Club in January. Anna had a copy of the flyer that will go out to the community. Rosemary plans to post a copy on the Champions Club Facebook site. OLLI member Hannah McClennon has moved to a community in Middletown and is willing to be an advocate for OLLI in Middletown. Deb Roberts is still interested in working through the UD database to reach out to groups such as parents of students, etc. Anna reported that UD is already sending out a standardize promotional piece to groups at the beginning of the semesters. Anna repeated that she needs a proposal with a description of what we are trying to accomplish with the database information. Joe stated he is still trying to get information on the DAFB retirees' newsletter as a possible promotional opportunity. An ESL instructor made us aware of community days held by the Capital and CR school districts. Phyllis Handler noted that all local school districts have community days. Susan Salkin suggested putting a member profile in the State Employees' Pension Office newsletter. Joe pointed out that it had been suggested that committee members be assigned a group or person and make a personal approach. It was suggested that the DSEA Retirees have a statewide event at Dover Downs once a year. In regard to the newsletter, it was requested that we reinstate items about volunteering and the personal testimonials by members. Joe asked if the large poster listing the instructors by length of teaching be moved from the main hallway to another location such as the back hallway or office to create more space for postings. Susan Salkin asked if members are aware of the bulletin boards location and use and suggested that announcements be made at the beginning of each semester to make members aware. Pat Weaver suggested that we rotate items on the bulletin board on a routine basis such as at the beginning of each month. Anna Moshier asked if someone on the Member Relations Committee or someone looking for volunteer hours might want to take the bulletin board on as a project. Joe discussed the member initiated special interest groups as a good source to introduce people to OLLI. It has been suggested keeping the newsletter to four per year. The next meeting will be Monday, January 13 at Noon.

NEW BUSINESS:

Catalog Distribution:

The distribution will concentrate on 55+ communities. The libraries will be taken care of through the inter-library mail system. It was suggestion that we start with 200 copies of the two-page piece.

2020 Council Slate:

Rosemary Engle asked that Council members be prepared to discuss the Council slate at the next meeting. A nominating committee will be named in January.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 6, Noon, Room 223

ADJOURMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Caroline M. Baxter