

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE  
at the University of Delaware in Dover

Council Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2020

ATTENDANCE: Rosemary Engle, Pat Weaver, Anna Moshier, Joe Bailey, Marge Felty, Susan McLaughlin, Ronnie Grady, Sally Cole, Susan Salkin, Phyllis Handler, 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 February 3, 2019, meeting was approved as submitted.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL CHAIR:

Rosemary Engle expressed that she has some concerns about the Dover OLLI and its future. She contacted George Irvine at the University of Delaware requesting a meeting. She wants to prevent rumors that can cause mistrust and a negative environment. He stated that the Dover OLLI is important to him. He and Anna have talked about this and he is fully aware. We all need a good, long discussion about the goal and get answers to questions. Anna will confirm a date with George, tentative date is Friday, March 27, at 10 a.m. here in Dover.

STAFF REPORT:

Finance:

Karen Schaub reviewed the financial reports she had prepared as of January 31, 2020. Spring registrations are complete. Expenses are within a normal range. The income in the Activity Account represents registrations for the Philadelphia trip. There were numerous gifts deposited in the Gift Fund.

Program:

Anna Moshier reported the contract for internet service has been signed and is back with Comcast. The estimated cost of \$1,000 will come from the Kent/Sussex Outreach fund. The church is in the process of installing cameras in every room, hallway and outside the building. The Dover OLLI office will be moved to Room 211 before the summer session. Sally Cole thanked everyone for being so welcoming to Dan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Affairs:

Ronnie Grady reported the committee has received 23 course proposals for the July session. There will be not Thursday noontime lectures during the summer session. The Tuesday lunchtime talks on the American Revolution have been a great success with interesting speakers and good attendance. Special thanks to the Travel Committee for presenting this idea

to promote the March 13 trip to the American Revolution Museum. The Curriculum Committee is close to filling the slots for the fall semester's Thursday lunchtime speaker series. The committee has noted that the attendance has decreased so they are asking if more classes could be scheduled on Thursdays in the late morning or early afternoon periods to encourage members to stay and attend the speaker series. The unofficial deadline for course proposals for the fall semester is April 16. The committee will be evaluating the reviews for the DSU classes to determine if it was successful and worth continuing. Pat Weaver questioned if anyone has gone on the national Osher website and looked at the curriculum resources. Wilmington is doing a Benjamin Franklin Circle from this website. Anna noted that there is a national newsletter that is free to members. Rosemary asked that when course proposals are submitted could the Curriculum Committee be notified immediately so they are not contacting instructors who have already submitted proposals. Sally stated that Joe Zito pulls the proposals off the website. They realize that there is a problem with the website which is being worked on.

#### Scholarship:

Ronnie Grady reported that OLLI has received three requests for the Fall semester.

#### Travel:

Susan Salkin reported that everything for the March 13 trip has been confirmed. Emails will be sent to everyone registered with details for the day. The Tuesday talks have been a great success with two left. There are 45 registrations to date with 37 members and 8 nonmembers. There is an estimated surplus of \$529.

#### Special Events:

Marge Felty reported Pamela Warner, the newest member of the committee, designed the poster that is now on display. The committee thanks Sally Cole for working with them on a budget for the event and Anna Moshier for prompt approval so they can proceed. Anna has procured \$2,000 toward the expenses which will allow us to keep the ticket prices at a very reasonable \$15. The registration forms will be ready this week. The budget is based on a count of 120 so there are 90 tickets for member and 30 guest tickets. More tickets may become available if guests decline. Marge met with Kelly at Vincenzo's and reduced the number of servers from 3 to 2, reworked the price of the vegetable and eliminated the ziti dish. The bruschetta will be our appetizer and the salad will be served with the meal. Vincenzo's needs a deposit by credit card five weeks beforehand and a final count one week before the event. The last day for registration will be April 6. There will be a book swap table but no Sneak Peek. Instructors who have been with the program since the beginning will be recognized before the luncheon, with entertainment and guest speakers following the luncheon. The committee is requesting materials to display on a memory table. Dan Edwards has agreed to help assemble a continuous loop of photos to run during the luncheon. The next Special Event Committee meeting will be Monday, March 9, at 12:00 p.m.

### Member Relations:

Joe Bailey reported that he felt the “grab and go” events that the committee have provided OLLI with contact cards. We need to add a line asking the person what they are interested in us offering. Cheryl Moore contacted members who did not return. We need to not ask the question – “Why didn’t you return?” but ask “What can we do better?” He discussed that members who are enjoying OLLI courses are our best recruiters. The attempt to meet with the 55+ communities has been disappointing. Most of these communities have activities for their residents. We should try and target communities that do not provide these activities. Advertising was discussed by the committee. The present ads in the DELAWARE STATE NEWS are not representative of the OLLI experience and should be replaced. Susan Salkin asked about digital advertising in the local publications online. Joe reported that he spoke with Lynn Kroesen, editor of Lewes OLLI’s newsletter, about tying the newsletter for the two locations together. This Month at OLLI can also be expanded to include more news items for the Dover OLLI. Joe questioned if the church was posting notices on the bulletin board. He would like to see two square feet of the bulletin board so members could promote requests, social opportunities, etc. Phyllis Handler asked about the possibility of a “parking lot” where members could use post-it notes on a white board to present these items. Marge Felty asked rideshare opportunities could be included in this bulletin board change. Joe asked what rumors and concerns other Council members have heard from the membership. Ronnie Grady reported that a shut-down of the program had been discussed, but Anna assured the council that this is not the plan of the UD.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Nominating Committee Slate Proposal:

Pat Weaver, chair of the nominating committee, presented the slate of nominees:  
Marge Felty, Anita Bullock, and Denise Kaercher

#### Member Survey:

The suggestion of a survey of the general memberships’ interests and comments was made. It was deferred till after the meeting with George Irvine.

#### Request to Move Meeting Date:

Rosemary Engle made a request for the Council to consider moving the meeting date to the third Monday of each month. This will allow for more current financial information. The decision was deferred till the next meeting.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 6, Noon, Room 219**

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

Respectfully submitted: Caroline M. Baxter