Senior College at Belfast

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2022

Call to Order: Nancy Perkins called the meeting (on Zoom) to order at 9:34

Present: Nancy Perkins, Martha Laitin, Beth Sterner, Jim Owen, Marjorie Arnett, Doug Chamberlin, Richard Koralek, John McClenahen, Ron Jarvella, Beth Sterner, Brian Richardson

Absent: Bob Adler, Rebecca Jessup, Richard Koralek

Absent, Deirdre Good, Rebecca Jessup, Robert Adler

Approval of electronically circulated previous minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Beth Sterner mailed the report but added that she had filed as required a yearly report with the Secretary of State. She will look into the funds held by the University of Maine and report back on their status.

**Website Management Update**: Doug Chamberlin is still working on this and will update Trustees list ASAP. We must find someone to take over the maintenance of the site to relieve Doug.

**WaldoCap Update:** Ron Jarvella reported on a recent meeting with Staff and that they are looking at using the remainder of our grant dollars for an add-on to a lunch program they have conducted in the summer. They are currently locating sites to have a Senior Cafe program for isolated seniors to come for a weekly lunch during the summer months.

**Hutchinson Center**: Nancy Perkins reported that she will meet with Hutchinson Center Staff regarding in person classes this fall to discuss our return. She mentioned that we would have to have a certain number of classes to make this financially feasible. A discussion followed regarding the need for a curriculum that will bring people back and attract new members. The idea of a $25 gift certificate from Left Bank Books for Instructors was also discussed and while no formal vote was taken it appeared that all supported such a move. (Jim Owen reminded the Chair that she had skipped the report from the Ad Hoc Name Change Committee).

**Ad Hoc Name Change Committee:** John McClenahen reported that of the names that had been submitted the Committee did not reach a consensus on one name. Several patterns emerged from their deliberations. They felt that “lifelong learning” was a key ingredient in a successful name. There was also a general feeling that “Institute” and   
“College” both had less than welcoming connotations. The six possible suggestions on which no consensus had been reached had been presented to the Board and the Committee felt that it was up to the Board to decide on the next step.

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Martha Laitin mentioned that the late Bern Porter had retired to Belfast and established the Institute for Advance Thinking. Again it was stressed that “Institute” was too formal for SC. Mayo Bulloch felt “College” was not off putting but others felt it was. She suggested the idea of “recreation center” but it was pointed out that Waldo County had Adult Recreation. Several people liked “center” as in Belfast Lifelong Learning Center. Several felt that it’s not broken but others felt we really needed to have a new name without loaded words that held preconceived concepts: “senior” and “college” alike.

Ron Jarvella pointed out the lengthy legal process in changing a name but Beth Sterner replied we would still legally be Belfast Senior College but do business as xxxxxxxxxxx.

After much discussion it was suggested we postpone further discussion until we meet in person. There are lots of good words we need to consider like “center” and “place.”Jim Owen moved to table and it was seconded by Beth Sterner and unanimously approved.

Nancy announced we had been invited to take part in Triad’s Senior Appreciation Day at the Tarratine Club from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday June 2nd. Nancy will be there and several others said they would as well. Beth Sterner will check the Office for material to display and hand out.

**Gilda’s Club:** Marjorie Arnett that she had discussed how to proceed with the idea of instituting a spot where those dealing with cancer as patients, caregivers, family and friends and those who have recovered can meet in a warm, welcoming atmosphere. She and Mayo Bulloch had spoken of ways to start such an initiative under the auspices of Senior College. They felt that a large group session with an entertaining and educational speaker could produce a spinoff of this idea and perhaps a space at the Hutchinson Center. To this end Marjorie has scheduled a meeting on June 7. Both Rebecca Jessup and her husband/caregiver Duncan Newcomer are interested in joining this initiative.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Perkins for Secretary Rebecca Jessup