Senior College of Belfast Board Meeting

July 20, 2022, At Social Capital

**Call to Order:** Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 9:30. Those present: Nancy Perkins, Beth Sterner, Ron Jarvella, Jim Owens, Doug Chamberlin, John McClanahan, Martha Laitin, Marjorie Arnett. Absent: Richard Koralek, Deirdre Good, Mayo Bullock. Late: Rebecca Jessup

**Minutes of the June meeting** were approved. (Spelling of Martha Laitin's last name has been fixed.)

**Treasurer’s Report** was sent out, and Beth also had hard copies for all. We have two Foundation accounts which are invested, but Beth recommends cashing out a CD, the smallest, about $4000.

**Old Business**

Doug Chamberlin:

* Doug will have a meeting today with Thierry Bonneville, as well as Nancy, Martha, Beth. Usually, Richard would also attend.
* Doug is working on a master list of all committees. He needs to know all the members for each committee.
* He is preparing for Fall semester. Course proposals have not always gone to the entire board, and he hopes to de-bug that today. He has proposed to Curriculum Committee chair Karen Gleason an on-line data base of all proposals.
* Before Al's untimely death, he was maintaining a list of all courses since the start of Senior College Belfast.
* There was discussion of how to find out which courses have been best attended, most successful, what drew the most students.

Naming Committee:

* John McClenahen reported that we don't have a consensus on a proposed name change, and since we have a number of new board members coming on in September, he proposed that we postpone this decision. After brief discussion, Ron Jarvella made the motion **That we table this [renaming of SCB] for the time being, and that we have a straw vote at this annual meeting**. This was seconded and passed unanimously.
The Hutch has offered us the use of a banner announcing "Senior College Courses Back Soon!" or words to that effect. There was discussion of using sandwich boards. Nancy will check if the Hutch has any for us to use. Doug has some. There was discussion of what signs we could set up around Belfast, even imitating the format of the old "Burma Shave" signs. We would use JBlack for printing, which will give us an account. The signs will let people know that we are resuming in-person classes. Theirry will do a postcard listing the classes starting in person on Sept 15th. Zoom classes will start in October.
* Micky Sirota, who does PSAs etc, has met with Beth and Richard.

Committee Reports:

Curriculum Committee

* Karen Gleason is the new chair. They are not required to have minutes. She is looking for a secretary.
* Nancy will add one of her classes on mystery novels. (She is also teaching at Presque Isle.) Pete Reilly is strongly in favor of going live.
* Concern was raised, what if someone in live classes comes down with Covid? We will require masks, as well as proof of vaccination. We will not yet be able to offer food or drink. If students want to bring lunch or snacks, it will have to be taken outside or in one's car. We should have hand sanitizers in classrooms. Any teacher who wants to may clean a classroom before a class.
* It was suggested that people who teach be offered a $20 gift certificate to Left Bank Books. Rebecca suggested that the gift certificate be good at either LBB OR Bella Books. This was discussed.
* Beth moved that **In addition to a one-year free membership plus a free class, we provide each teacher with a $20 gift certificate at either Left Bank Books or Bella Books, good for 12 months**. This was seconded and discussed and passed unanimously.
Special Events
* Fred Bowers can offer an interpretive walk on the Rail Trail. This would be an excellent event for October. Martha is still the only person on the Special Event committee. There was some discussion of a music event for Winter (past event with Gordon Bok).
Gilda's Club: Marjorie and Mayo and Nancy met and decided to table this for a year, because we want one excellent speaker who can bring people into a major Special Event which will kick off the proposal into the community. (Rebecca suggested Dr Betsy Connelly, recently retired head of Oncology at WCGH, much admired & beloved.) This would give us a year to get the Gilda's club idea organized.

Annual Meeting -- We won't need anything from Bell the Cat. Nominations have to be published and sent out ASAP. It would be easier to have a straw poll in the auditorium. All the committees need new blood. The meeting will be at noon on September 29th. The meeting is over in about 1/2 hour, 11:45 to 12:15. We will have bullet-point reports from each committee chair.

The Nominating Committee report has to be published so as to be ready for the Annual Meeting. Jim said that one more non-board member is needed.

Doug suggested that we need an Operations Committee, which Nancy said might better be called Technology and Operations.

(The next Secretary of the Board will be Samantha Causen, assuming approval.)

New Business:

Marjorie brought up the Belfast Poetry Festival, which is coming up, said we might be able to get our name out,

possibly sponsor something. This was discussed. It was agreed that Jim and Rebecca would meet with the current Belfast poet laureate, Judy Kaber. (Jim also recommended the poet Dawn Potter.)

The next board meeting will be on the 3rd Wednesday in August, at Social Capital.

The meeting was adjourned at 11AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Jessup