

Senior College at Belfast Board of Trustees Meeting

August 16 2023 at Social Capital

Call to order : Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 9.30am.

Present : Nancy Perkins, Beth Sterner, Martha Laitin, Sam Causon, Jim Owen, Doug Chamberlin, Mayo Bulloch, Marjorie Arnett, Ron Jarvella, Denise Pendleton, Mike Ray, Monica Morris, Karen Gleeson, Trudy Miller, Elizabeth Pollock.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report was sent out by email on August 15th and approved by the board.

Sam explained that the format of the reports for July 2023 look different as we are now using Quickbooks online and have set up a new chart of accounts with the aim of making the reports easier to read. The balance sheet now shows total current assets of \$141k, other assets of \$225k being the endowment funds which we receive income from but cannot access the principal amount.

There was a discussion on the question of scholarships for people needing help with membership &/or class fees and it was decided that 'Limited scholarships available, please call the office' would be added to the website.

Sam handed out a first draft of the budget for Jul 23- Jun 24 and asked for feedback from Committee heads on their estimated spending for the year. We hope to finalize the budget at the next board meeting.

Old Business

Move from the Hutchinson Center – Nancy thanked everyone involved in moving the office contents to the storage unit. At this point the amount of storage space we will have in the new office is unknown but we will likely be setting up there on September 1st.

There was a discussion of the plans for manning the office & it was decided that someone should be there on Tuesdays and Thursdays once registration opens. Nancy suggested that we organize a formal opening of the office with a ribbon cutting early in September.

Gilda - Marjorie showed the members a beautiful bowl that she has painted and will be donating in the name of Senior College to the Rotary charity auction as a reciprocal gift to their donation for the Gilda Healing with Laughter event.

Committee reports

Curriculum committee : Karen reported that the curriculum for Fall is finalized with 12 courses in total. This number may have been higher if not for the need to spend volunteer time & effort in finding new class venues. Nancy noted that Winterim will be a good time for more zoom courses and that scheduling four week courses should be preferable to having several of just one session - the committee will further discuss future 'brown bag lunch' courses. Course registration begins on September 1st and all classes are listed on the website with detailed information available. The availability of refreshments and break time facilitates was discussed, this will be reviewed when feedback from participants (to be encouraged by the class facilitators) is available after the Fall semester.

Nominating committee : Jim reported that Van Bankston has filled out his application which has been accepted. Jim will be leaving the board in September but will be available to pass on relevant info and training to whoever takes over as head of nominating.

Communications committee : Denise put out a press release announcing SC post Hutch plans and created a postcard for Fall which will need to be mailed. She has produced a calendar of Outreach/Communications events through Oct 2023 and plans to keep this updated going forward. A newsletter written by Nancy will go out on Aug 18th and another press release is planned for the beginning of September. Denise asked board members to keep her informed if they have spoken to the press.

Trudy noted the importance of sharing Senior College class information to the 'You know you love Belfast' FB page, Denise will add this to the calendar. Nancy will continue posting news to the Senior College page and sharing.

There will be a Communications Committee meeting in the near future.

New Business

Future of the Hutchinson Center – The steering committee have asked Ron Jarvella, as a member of the Senior College Board, to join them. Nancy met with senator Chip Curry who is involved in the campaign to retain the use of the Center for Waldo County. Mike Ray noted that the board should not be taking a position on the future of the Hutch without first having a discussion and suggested that we have a more focused group discussion after Ron has attended the steering committee meeting and reported back. Mike made the motion that ‘Senior College is in a wait and see mode’ re the future of the Hutch, this was seconded and unanimously approved.

Annual Meeting – The content of the upcoming meeting was discussed & it was decided that we need to give a brief verbal report by the Committee chairs to the members on the activities of the previous year and then have a more forward looking presentation by other invited speakers (suggestions were Kristin Frangoulis & Fred Powers, possibly Chip Curry or Eric Sanders). Nancy will update the board with the agenda as is comes together and this will be printed together with Fall class info for members.

The date for the September board meeting is the 20th , we will formally select the new officers at that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.28am.