

Senior College at Belfast
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2022

Call to Order: Nancy Perkins called the meeting (on Zoom) to order at 9:35

Present: Nancy Perkins, Deirdre Good, Rebecca Jessup, Jim Owen, Brian Richardson, Doug Chamberlin, John McClenahan, Richard Koralek, Ron Jarvella, Beth Sterner

Absent: Bob Adler, Brenda Smith, Marjorie Arnett

Approval of circulated Previous Minutes: Approved by all

Approval of circulated Treasurer's Report: Also approved by all

Old Business:

Website management update: Doug Chamberlin shared that the ad hoc committee met since the last Board meeting and discussed what our website needs for upgrades. Doug shared that with Thierry B. Thierry had a positive response, felt confident he has a new platform that will work for us, and believes it will be in place by the end of the month.

Doug also reported that he has purchased and set up a new computer for our office as planned. It is located at his home for now. He will be in touch with Elizabeth about the new machine.

Motion: The Senior College will donate our old computer to WCAP once its Senior College data has been erased. Moved, seconded, and approved by the Board.

Waldo CAP update: Ron Jarvella met with our WCAP contact person. Ron explained how staffing issues have impacted the use of our donation. However, WCAP is networking with the Library, the Y, and Aging Well in Waldo County regarding implementing increased services to the seniors in our community using our funds. To date, WCAP evidently has not spent any of our donated funds.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Since Brenda wasn't able to be at the meeting, Nancy took the lead on her behalf. There was a brief discussion of the circulated reports provided by Brenda. The pandemic and not offering our usual face-to-face classes continues to have an impact on our membership and registration income, just as it is for the other Senior Colleges in the State. We agreed we need to remain diligent regarding reaching out to members, to prospective students, and investing for the future

both now and after Covid. We now have over 160 members which is not close to our membership before Covid, but is similar to what other Senior Colleges are experiencing.

Curriculum: Deirdre shared an up to date overview of registrations for our Winterim classes. All have sufficient registrations to run. Mike Hurley's class has had an excellent response, perhaps in part due to a good article in a local paper about it, thanks to our Publicity Committee. Some Searsport residents have signed up for classes. We talked about how both Board members and instructors should take initiative to promote our college and our classes to our friends, organizational connections, and on our own FB pages.

A motion regarding offering instructors free membership, one free class, or a free book in appreciation of their service was deferred until next time.

Nominating: Jim indicated that he hopes to have a committee meeting later this month. He also shared that he needs to find another member for the committee who is not a Board member.

Publicity: Beth Sterner shared that she and her committee have sent out a press release to the Belfast Chamber of Commerce, submitted an article about Bob Rackmales class, and set up interviews for Mike Hurley, and for David Greeley regarding their classes. We talked about establishing a Facebook Page for our Senior College, pro and con. After discussion a motion was made and approved: That Doug and Mayo will create and manage an open Facebook Page on behalf of Senior College (as part of our outreach to the wider community).

Nancy raised the issue of a return to the Hutchinson Center and a discussion followed regarding establishing protocols consistent with those of the Center that provide protection for our membership. The topic of hybrid classes was discussed and Doug reminded us of the cost and need for technical assistance to have a hybrid class. Instead an offering of both Zoom and in-person classes would be best for us to pursue.

Finally the question of insurance coverage for members taking David Greeley's Maple Tree class was raised. Brenda would be asked to check with our insurance company and a waiver would be required of those attending.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Jim Owen, temporary secretary