

Senior College at Belfast
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2022

Call to Order: Nancy Perkins called the meeting (on Zoom) to order at 9:31

Present: Nancy Perkins, Martha Laitin, Beth Sterner, Deirdre Wood, Jim Owen, Marjorie Arnett, Doug Chamberlin, John McClenahan, Ron Jarvella, Beth Sterner, and Brian Richardson
Absent: Bob Adler, Rebecca Jessup, Richard Koralek

Approval of electronically circulated previous minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Beth Sterner reported that she had spoken with the accountant and was in the process of converting to QuickBooks. Mayo Bulloch inquired if Beth had asked about the nonprofit rate and Beth replied in the affirmative and that we would be receiving it. Beth will be checking the mail at the Hutchinson Center for any bills, etc.

Old Business:

Website: Doug Chamberlin announced that work on the website was moving slowly due to his workload with other projects. Thierry Bonneville also has a large client base and has not charged us for any of the help he has offered. Beth Sterner will send Thierry a thank you for his help and mention that no bill has been received. Doug said that having Thierry as a resource was extremely valuable but he needed help with completing our website, adding archival files and keeping it up to date. We should all think about someone who might be back-up to Doug.

Curriculum Committee:

Deirdre Good hoped everyone had read the report she had emailed previously. It highlighted a new course taught by Monica Morris "Making Mosaics." This is the first practical activity course on Zoom and it went extremely well even with a computer problem. This class is taught by using 2 cameras and this technology could give us the ability to do cooking classes as well as other offerings of this type. The Committee is currently seeking Fall classes and also would like to suggest a full membership activity such as a potluck picnic at City Park prior to the Fall Session. A discussion followed with the majority of the Board expressing the opinion that a luncheon at the Hutchinson Center at the Annual Meeting would be the best opportunity for a Fall gathering. We would provide a simple lunch from Bell the Cat following the very brief Annual Meeting in the auditorium. This is all dependent on a return to the Hutchinson Center for in-person classes this Fall.

WaldoCAP Grant:

Ron Jarvella and Marjorie Arnett reported on handing out copies of "The Devil's Highway" at the YMCA Senior luncheon and how pleased the recipients were. A May luncheon may be held and someone from Senior College could attend and talk about our mission, scholarships, classes, etc. Marina Kinney of WaldoCAP has asked for a meeting to brief Senior College on a new program direction. We will report next month.

Marjorie also added what a wonderful job the agency did with the Cinderella project whereby local teens come and select prom dresses donated by Macy's.

Nominating Committee

Jim Owen described the proposed slate as one made up of "old" members re-upping as well as 4 new members who will be elected at the annual meeting. Jim made a motion seeking Board approval for the slate previously emailed to the Board as follows: additional 3 year term: Martha Laitin; additional 2 year term: Doug Chamberlin, Richard Koralek, Brian Richardson; nominated for a first 3 year term: Sam Causen, Monica Morris, David May and Denise Pendleton. Ron Jarvella moved the passage of the motion and Beth Sterner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Return to the Hutchinson Center:

Nancy emailed staff at the Hutchinson Center about Fall session classrooms but the new Director is on vacation until May 2. In response to this question they would like to know how many classes we will have, how many individuals will attend, and will we still have Zoom classes. This is difficult to project and a discussion followed in which Marjorie Arnett suggested we could approach this question by deciding we want 10 classes and do what it takes to fill them. (Doug remarked that Marjorie had spunk. Marjorie replied it will take spunk to get to where we were after the Covid hiatus and we should offer "savory, sensual classes to suck them in." [Could not leave this out]). A discussion surrounding class offerings followed. The point was made by both John McClanhen and Jim Owen that we must continue presenting Zoom classes especially in the evening to attract working members. Marjorie added that the Curriculum Committee should pay attention to adding courses that people want to take. Doug Chamberlin mentioned that we have a recent survey that the Curriculum Committee can utilize in seeking popular classes. This discussion will be relayed to the Curriculum Committee.

Gilda's Club:

Marjorie Arnett asked the Board to consider sponsoring a special event or Brown Bag Lunch devoted to the idea of introducing the concept of a club designed for cancer patients, and recovered cancer patients, and those who have been impacted by cancer. This initial gathering would require an expert facilitator. Marjorie will speak with a number of members of Senior College including Rebecca Jessup on how to move forward with this idea. We could not call it "Gilda's Club" but determine our own name for any continuing enterprise. Senior College could become a long term sponsor of this activity and perhaps it would evolve into an ongoing club designed to support cancer victims in our community. The Board agreed that this is something that should be explored.

Nancy mentioned the news article in The Republican Journal about the "One Read" activity and the mention of Senior College. There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Perkins for Secretary Rebecca Jessup