



## **Minutes of the LLI Council Meeting**

**September 20, 2021**

**Video Conference 9:33 - 11:32 a.m.**

**Council Members Present:** Robert Beury, Tom Esposito (ex officio), Felice Gelman, Robert Inglish, Nanci Kryzak, Deborah Lanser, Linda LeGendre, Jill Lundquist, Chuck Mishaan, Marge Moran, Deborah Schwartz, Linda Stanley

**Council Members Absent:** Carmela Gersbeck, Carol Goss, John Mathews

### **Call to Order**

President Nanci Kryzak called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Upon a motion by Felice Gelman and seconded by Linda Stanley, the minutes from the meeting of August 21 were approved unanimously.

## **Executive Committee Reports**

### **President's Report: Nanci Kryzak**

Nanci expects to sign a new agreement with the George Mason University Law School for their work on a video recording policy. She hopes we will have a final recommendation this fall.

### **First Vice President's Report: Linda Stanley**

The banner celebrating LLI's 20th anniversary will be placed over Annandale Road for the month of October.

Felice suggested we send out a press release about the 20th anniversary.

**Action point:** Linda Stanley will get in touch with Mark Primoff, Bard VP of public relations.

**Action point:** Cathy Reinis will write the press release.

Robert B asked that the invoice for the banner be sent to him. He added that we should not have to pay sales tax.

### **Second Vice President's Report: Felice Gelman**

The bylaws committee is continuing to meet. So far, the only Council member who has commented on the draft is Robert Inglish. Felice expects to have a draft revision by early November.

**Secretary's Report: Deborah Lanser**

Deborah did not deliver a report.

**Treasurer's Report: Robert Beaury**

There was only one expense, for \$438, over the previous month.

**Motion:** A motion to approve the treasurer's report by Linda Stanley and seconded by Jill was approved unanimously.

Robert said the finance committee will meet in November.

**Standing Committee Reports****Admin/Infrastructure: Deborah Schwartz**

Deborah thanked the catalog team and Susan Christoffersen for getting the catalog out on time.

The open rate for the newsletter has remained constant at about 60%.

The online team worked hard to communicate with the membership about the first day of classes. Several people complained they didn't get the Zoom links. The issue is usually that they changed the email they used in ProClass or the email notification wound up on their spam folder.

Deborah will contact some members who may be willing to join the tech team. The team definitely needs more help.

**Curricular and Special Programs: Linda LeGendre**

The first class on African Americans in the Hudson Valley was a big success. The acting class was cancelled at the last minute, but may be held in the spring.

The schedule for WinterFest has been finalized.

A small task force has been formed to consider the best way to show appreciation for our presenters. Council needs to have a conversation about the best way to do so. Robert B will find the money to hold a recognition event if one is planned. Tom pointed out that in the past, presenters received a free membership. That was replaced by the recognition event, which also included Council. Other people, such as session managers, also deserve recognition. Linda will take all these points into consideration.

The spring semester will have zoom classes on Thursday and in-person classes on Friday.

Deborah S will work with Linda to ensure there is a smooth process for registering producers in small classes. There is no issue with large classes.

**Governance: Nanci Kryzak**

Nanci said she had nothing to add to her written governance report.

**Membership Development: Robert English**

Kim Sears did wonderful work organizing orientation, IDs, tours, and parking information. Thirty-five people attended orientation, either via zoom or in person, and 7 additional new

members went on a campus tour. Fern Fleckman will take over as chair of member services when Kim moves away in a few months.

New members can arrange for photo IDs individually directly with the ID adept. in Bldgs & Grounds.

Maddy did an excellent job with the mentor program. She will follow up with them later to be sure they keep in touch with their mentees.

The event at Hessel will take place on October 13 for 50 members. They will be guided through the museum in groups of 10 by the student curators. We can not have a reception at Bard afterwards, but Robert will welcome suggestions for an alternative space.

#### **Program Support: Carmela Gersbeck**

We need more zoom session managers for the spring semester. There are 20 who have confirmed for the fall.

We still need to find someone to replace Martha Nickels in hospitality once we are back on campus. Irene did an excellent job arranging for the reception at orientation.

There has been little interest in the member art show, possibly because it is digital. Once we are allowed back on campus, we can have a live exhibit at Bertelsmann and promote it as a social gathering.

#### **Planning and Evaluation: Jill Lundquist**

The hybrid class has been a success and we can consider adding additional hybrid classes to the spring semester. We don't know how many people would have chosen to take the class in person if enrollment wasn't limited.

**Suggestion:** Felice suggested we poll the members about their interest in attending a hybrid class in the spring.

Jill noted that five classrooms on the second floor of Olin are set up for hybrid classes, while Robert B noted that LC 115 is not. Robert, Gary, Chuck, and Mike Simpler will work on improving the process for hybrid classes. Tom noted that this may benefit members who prefer not to come on campus. The addition of hybrid classes will enable us to expand the membership without worrying about parking. We will ask for member feedback at the end of the semester.

An eighth session may be added to the class on African Americans in the Hudson Valley, facilitated by the Justice Group. The group has broken up into six teams, and Jill will ask each team to prepare a sentence or two about what they are doing, which she will add to her report.

The vaccination status of about half the members has been verified.

**Action plan:** Jill and Nanci will get together to devise a plan to verify the status of the remaining members.

#### **Old Business**

Deborah S read the following policy for consideration:

FIN 04/21. LLI Council establishes need-based scholarships to LLI members for partial or full coverage of annual membership fees. The amount of said scholarships shall not

exceed the cost of registration fees per individual, and the cumulative amount given shall not exceed \$2000 per year. New and renewing members who wish to apply for said scholarships shall petition the Council President, in writing. The President shall be authorized and empowered to award such scholarships, at his or her discretion, and the payment of such scholarship shall be made directly to LLI on behalf of the member(s).

Council thought this should eventually be revisited in light of our diversity outreach but agreed to let it stand for the present.

Deborah S then read the following policy.

FIN 11/13. There shall be no cash reserve requirement for LLI accounts.

Robert B pointed out that 10% of our income has been set aside, in accordance with a recommendation by the finance team. We can go year to year to determine whether we should contribute more money. Felice pointed out that it's good for a membership organization to have a policy that addresses issues like this. We can say that any fund balance will be subject to a recommendation by the finance team, and as determined by Council.

**Action:** Robert B agreed to discuss this policy at the next meeting of the Finance Committee.

#### **New Business**

A new policy was proposed, as suggested at last month's meeting.

LLI classes on national holidays will be held unless the Bard College class schedule observes that holiday. Observance of religious holidays that coincide with LLI classes is at the discretion of the class presenter.

**Motion:** Upon a motion by Felice and seconded by Jill, Council voted unanimously to approve this new policy.

#### **Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Linda and seconded by Jill, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Lanser  
Secretary