



**Minutes of the LLI Council Meeting
July 19, 2021
Video Conference 9:30 - 11:28 a.m.**

Council Members Present: Robert Beaury, Tom Esposito (ex officio), Felice Gelman, Carmela Gersbeck, Carol Goss, Robert English, Nanci Kryzak, Deborah Lanser, Linda LeGendre, Jill Lundquist, John Mathews, Chuck Mishaan, Marge Moran, Deborah Schwartz

Council Member Absent: Linda Stanley

Call to Order

President Nanci Kryzak called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. and welcomed returning and newly elected Council members.

Approval of Minutes

Robert English requested that his name be added to the list of Council members present for the June 21, 2021 Council minutes.

Motion: Upon a motion by Felice and seconded by Carmela, Council unanimously approved the minutes with that correction.

Executive Committee Reports

President's Report: Nanci Kryzak

Carmela has agreed to take on the responsibilities for special events, while Linda LeGendre has agreed to chair Curriculum and Special Programs.

Motion: Upon a motion by Marge and seconded by Jill, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Linda as chair of Curriculum and Special Programs effective immediately. Linda joined the meeting and was duly appointed.

Bard has approved LLI returning to campus if Nanci and Jill will attest that all members attending indoor LLI activities have been verified as fully vaccinated. We will mandate that all LLI members who attend in-person classes must submit proof of vaccination. Council members will check member vaccination status as LLI members return to campus. We will also submit our fall on-campus plans to the Bard Covid Response Team.

Nanci has approved one full and six partial confidential scholarships to LLI members who requested assistance towards payment of their annual membership fees.

The co-chairs of the DEI/Social Justice Task Group will be Barbara Danish and Laura Brown. They will report to P&E.

This year, LLI has awarded three BHSEC grants of \$665 each.

First Vice President's Report: Linda Stanley

In her written report, Linda said she has run through an orientation with Carol and will do so with Felice.

Second Vice President's Report: Felice Gelman

Felice has discussed the bylaws review, set for the coming year, with Jill and Nanci. She is recruiting members for the Bylaws Review Committee, and Robert Beaury has agreed to join.

Action point: Felice requested Council members review the bylaws and email any suggested changes to her.

Secretary's Report: Deborah Lanser

Deborah reported that the only mail we have received in recent weeks was from the Dutchess Council for the Aging.

Because we were late in paying the rental fee for the mailbox, we were asked to reapply. Deborah did so and authorized Nanci and Robert B to also access the mailbox. She will get the combination to them separately.

Deborah read a letter from departed Council member Cathy Reinis, thanking Council for the gift certificate to Cinnamon restaurant.

Treasurer's Report: Robert Beaury

At the end of fiscal year 2020-21, the budget report showed our fund balance was \$98,763.06. That figure includes membership fees received in May and June. Additional fees will be collected in July. Once all fees have come in, Robert will transfer those fees from the fund balance and add all fees collected in July 2021; the total will be listed as membership fees in the budget for FYE 6/30/22.

Felice commented that this is very confusing and will have to be explained at the annual meeting. Robert said the only way to bring this into alignment is to collect all money starting July 1, the start of our fiscal year.

Our operating expenses for 2020-2021 were \$14,067.17, substantially lower than the budgeted amount. Nanci said the amount listed for AV in the adopted budget was \$1,500, a misalignment on the form to be corrected.

Motion: Upon a motion by Jill and seconded by Felice, Council voted unanimously to approve the budget.

Standing Committee Reports

Admin/Infrastructure: Deborah Schwartz

Catalog is being proofread and edited. We need to know the final dates for fall semester, so Susan Christoffersen can enter them in ProClass.

The June newsletter went to 663 recipients, including the new members. The open rate was almost 63%. Communications is working on a strategy to familiarize members with ProClass. Deborah Schwartz has written an article about accessing ProClass for the August newsletter.

As of July 15, 285 members have renewed and 57 applicants have paid for their membership, for a possible total of 344. Once all members have been confirmed, Deborah will forward a list to Robert English. The list will be a google sheet, which can be accessed by logging into the back end of ProClass. Deborah will train people in accessing it.

The new applicants were able to pay through ProClass with very few problems. Deborah knows of three people who were admitted but didn't get the admission letter. They have since joined and paid.

Susan C is keeping the website up-to-date.

Curricular and Special Programs: Linda Legendre

Courses have been approved for two morning zoom sessions on Thursdays, two on Fridays, and two on-campus sessions on Friday afternoons with four courses in each afternoon session.

The committee was concerned that some classes will begin on the first day of Yom Kippur, which would affect participation of some presenters and members. Nanci said that the practice has been for LLI to follow Bard's schedule, which continues to hold classes on religious holidays.

Jill suggested adding a policy about scheduling LLI classes.

Suggested new policy: LLI holds classes on dates when Bard College is in session. If Bard classes are not held in observance of a national holiday, then LLI will also not hold classes.

Action point: Deborah Lanser agreed to distribute this suggestion to Council for approval in August.

Action point: Council also suggested letting Bill Tuel know so the policy can be prominently displayed on the catalog.

An article for the August newsletter will explain the reasons for our schedule.

Tom is arranging for rooms for the in-person classes, including accommodations for large classes. LC 115 is available for Bard Masters. Wine tasting may be done in Hegeman. The

wooden floor in Bard Hall would be suitable for the dance class, and that is controlled by the music department. If that isn't available, the studios in the gym may be available.

We can not have classes on campus on October 15. Presenters may add a class at the end of the term to make up the time.

Governance: Nanci Kryzak

As Jill documented in her CCE report, Russia has declared Bard College undesirable, effectively prohibiting the operation of Smolny College, a collaboration between Bard and St. Petersburg State University. All Bard faculty have left, and they are forbidden from communicating with any Russians. Most Russian press has been sympathetic to the program. This is an evolving situation.

Membership Development: Robert English

Orientation for the class of 2021 will be held on September 8 at 9 a.m. with a hospitality table. Campus tours will be conducted afterwards. We can verify vaccine status then. Campus tours will follow. An alternative orientation can be held via Zoom on September 10. Robert is ordering more lanyards. Deborah S will prepare the name tags for printing.

Nanci will let the Bard Covid team know about the campus tours.

Maddy is looking for more mentors. Mentor matching will be conducted July 22 - 28. Mentors should know the names of their mentees, where they live and phone numbers.

Barbara Burns will send out a letter on August 5 to assess member interest in volunteering.

The member services letter will be sent July 30.

We will have to arrange for Bard ID cards and vehicle registration for the classes of 2020 and 2021.

Social Gatherings is working on an event at Hessel, depending on Bard's reception policy. Chuck asked to be kept in the loop regarding any AV requirements, and Irene will be consulted about the hospitality needs.

Program Support: Carmela Gersbeck

We need more class managers and session managers. A recruitment email will be sent out by the end of the week.

Chuck has met with Bard's AV team and a trial rehearsal of a hybrid class worked well. As of now, hybrid is only suitable for a discussion class, but the hybrid team will work on handling more complicated classes in the spring.

Planning and Evaluation: Jill Lundquist

Selected Council members should be available at orientation.

With regard to the DEI/Social Justice Task Force, Barbara and Laura are meeting with members who expressed interest in joining. They may not get started until September.

Old Business

Jil will check with Bard about the idea of putting up an LLI 20th Anniversary banner across Annandale Road. Prior to COVID, Linda Stanley had expressed interest in coordinating the plan; Nanci will follow up with Linda.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Deborah L and seconded by Carmela, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:27.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Lanser
Secretary