



**Annual Meeting  
LLI at Bard College  
Olin Hall, Bard College  
May 13, 2022, 9:32 - 10:45 a.m.**

**Council Members Present:** Robert Beaury, Tom Esposito, Felice Gelman, Carmela Gersbeck, Nanci Kryzak, Linda LeGendre, Jill Lundquist, John Matthews, Chuck Mishaan, Marge Moran, Deborah Schwartz

**Introduction**

President Nanci Kryzak welcomed 61 members to the annual meeting and commented what a delight it was to be in person. She thanked Irene Esposito for arranging the delicious brunch treats we enjoyed before the meeting.

**Motion:** The first order of business is the approval of the minutes from May 14, 2021. Mary Freeman moved to approve the minutes and Phyllis Heiko seconded. There was no discussion and a voice vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

**State of the Organization:**

Nanci noted that at the time of last year's annual meeting, we were nearing the end of our first year of Covid and Zoom-only classes and that we had also scheduled our first hybrid class for SummerFest. We were planning an all-Zoom semester for Fall 2021, when on June 21, Bard said we could return to campus - if we verified that all members on campus were fully vaccinated. We pulled off the major project of setting up the verification process and were able to offer both Zoom and on-campus classes. She offered special thanks to Jill Lundquist for making this work - and reminded everyone to wear their name tags!

We have learned that both classes on Zoom and classes on campus serve our membership; we learned that Zoom is great for WinterFest (the weather doesn't matter!). We have added social gatherings as requested by members responding to the annual survey. We have had a tour of the Hessel museum, a cider tasting at Greig Farm, a collage workshop at the Starr Library, a tour of the Fisher Center backstage, and a new member event, with more to come.

Nanci noted that the DEI/Social Justice Team has been very productive since its inception last June in producing interesting and timely courses, in collaborating with other local LLIs, and in

contributing articles for the newsletter. Their research continues on future initiatives to diversify our membership.

Nanci thanked LLI members for using ProClass, which has vastly simplified our operations. We are thinking about how to make it even easier for members to learn how to use the system and how it helps us run so much more efficiently. She recognized Deborah Schwartz who has led the initiative.

Reminders: the annual survey goes out May 16, and every comment helps Council plan for the future. June 1 - 21 is membership renewal and new-member application time: tell interested friends to be sure to apply. Limited scholarships are available: write to [president@lli.bard.edu](mailto:president@lli.bard.edu) if one is needed. Council decided that the membership cap will remain at 350 for 2022 - 2023. Bard is using more classroom space on Fridays, and parking availability is not yet clear, as many members have not yet returned to attending courses on-campus.

Nanci thanked the many behind-the-scenes people and teams who are the key to LLI's success; for example, class support, the newsletter, events planning, registration and so much else. To recognize all those who have helped us pull through Covid and keep going, we will have a special celebration on June 15 at 4:00 p.m. at the Pavilion at Montgomery Place where all are welcome, including our LLI course presenters.

### **2022 - 2023 Budget**

Robert Beaury, Treasurer, presented the budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. Our fund balance is higher than expected, since we had planned for 20th Anniversary celebrations that did not happen; the funds will be used partly for other annual events. A feature of our budget is that member renewal fees are paid in June; the funds are transferred into the new budget after July 1, the start of the next fiscal year. He also noted that the LLI funds are held by Bard College.

**Motion:** Cathy Reinis moved to approve the budget and Marge Moran seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

### **Bylaws**

Felice Gelman, Second Vice President, chaired the Bylaws Review Committee. Felice thanked the members of the group: Robert Beaury, Deborah Lanser, and Anne Sunners. The changes: a sentence was added to the Purpose about inclusiveness; the Nominating and Election committees were combined and will be chaired by the First Vice President, with the Members at Large as members of the committee; the number of members needed to call a special meeting was set at 10%; if LLI ceases, the assets will be distributed to Bard College.

In an online poll, 132 members voted; 130 approved and 2 opposed. The changes are effective as of today, May 13, 2022.

### **Recognition of Retiring Council Members**

Nanci introduced and thanked:

Linda Stanley, 1st Vice President, who chaired the Nominating and Elections Committee, conducted the annual member survey, and oriented new Council members.

Robert Beaur, Treasurer, who updated our financial reporting and worked closely with Bard college to make it easier to track our funding and reimbursements.

Chuck Mishan, Member at Large who has given years of devotion to LLI and who always asks perceptive and tough questions.

Marge Moran, who did truly represent the members, always thinking of the impact of decisions on individual members.

Deborah Schwartz, who transformed LLI operations and led the Catalog, Communications, Registration, Technology, and Website teams, and managed our Google Workspace, instituted ProClass at LLI, and more.

### **Introduction of New Council Members**

Nanci first thanked Linda Stanley for chairing the Nominating and Election committees and overseeing the election, in which 233 members voted. She then introduced the new Council Members: Kayla Bell, Member at Large-elect ; Michael Weinstock, Member at Large-elect; Jerry Brockett, Treasurer-elect; and Robert Beaur, President-elect. She noted that Bard had recently required us to identify a Contact Tracer and that Michael Weinstock has been ably serving in that position. The new Council members take office on July 1, 2022.

### **Looking Forward**

Robert Beaur, Treasurer and President-elect, said he had joined LLI in 2019, fully expecting to be coming to meetings and classes on campus. As he watched the transition to Zoom, he was impressed with the “we can do it” attitude of LLI. He especially thanked Jill Lundquist and the Planning and Evaluation committee. Now, as we slowly return to campus, we have grown: we will be both Zoom and in-person; we will add hybrid options; we will have more diversity in classes and presenters. He saw Covid as an existential crisis for LLI, but we have emerged stronger and can look to the future with optimism. LLI’s unspoken motto seems to be “we’ll figure it out.”

### **Conclusion**

Nanci commented that she had enjoyed meeting so many of our members, forming friendships that will last a lifetime, and representing LLI. She commented on our partnership with Bard College as part of the Center for Civic Engagement and on how closely Bard has worked with us through the pandemic. She concluded by saying it has been her honor to work with the Council and members of LLI.

The business meeting was adjourned and the members present enjoyed a beautiful video presentation, *The Faces of LLI*, with images from our classes, our meetings, our social events, our wiffleball and bocce gatherings and more, much more. Thank you to Gary Miller and the LLI photographers!