



Council Minutes
April 17, 2023
9:30 - 10:48 am
Via Zoom

Council Members Present: Robert Beaury, Jerry Brockett, Felice Gelman, Carmela Gersbeck, Carol Goss, Robert English, Deborah Lanser, Jill Lundquist, Linda LeGendre, John Mathews, Mary McClellan, Michael Weinstock

Council Members Absent: Kayla Bell, John Mathews

Also Present: Linda Christensen, Susan Simon, Lyn Walker, Eleanor Wieder

Call to Order

President Robert Beaury called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the Council meeting of March 20, 2023 were approved unanimously.

Secretary Correspondence

Deborah reported that we received an acknowledgement from Bard of our \$1,000 gift to CCS—The Next Generation Fund.

Treasurer's Report

Jerry reported our expenses for March totaled \$1,985.65, and for the year totaled \$10,644.03. He reviewed the 2023-2024 budget proposed by the Finance Committee meeting. Most operating expenses will remain the same as for the 2022-2023, with more being allocated to hospitality and social gatherings. The budget allocates \$32,500 for donations and scholarships. This reflects the \$1,500 to the tribes of speakers from Indigenous Peoples, \$1,000 to Hessel, and \$1,000 to the Fisher Center. There is an estimated net loss of \$7,891, which will leave us with a fund balance of approximately \$70,000.

Motion: Upon a motion by Jill and seconded by Felice, Council voted unanimously to accept the proposed 2023-2024 budget.

Classes in Progress

Linda said the only problem she had heard about was with the tech in John Ferguson's class.

Amendment to Bylaws

As of this date, Felice had received 120 responses and one negative response.

Election of Officers

Mary said the article about the election was set for the newsletter.

SummerFest

Council approved a fee of \$25 per course for nonmembers.

Pickleball, Bocce, and Hiking

The town of Red Hook has approved the use of their pickleball court for LLI's pickleball group. Our insurance broker has said LLI players will not be excluded from coverage. The hiking and bocce groups are also covered. Council recommended getting a signed waiver from participants of all three groups.

Action point: Robert will draft a sample waiver and submit it to Council.

Flier Seeking New Members

Robert I will send Council members the design of a flier advertising LLI for new members. When it is approved, members of Membership Development will distribute it at various sites in the region.

Membership Cap

Council agreed to cap the membership for 2023-2024 at 350.

Registration

The new member application on the web will go live June 1. Members still have to go to ProClass. Carmela recommended starting training the registration team in mid-May to minimize problems.

Membership Fee

Council voted unanimously to keep the membership fee of \$175.

Annual Survey

Mary reported that the annual survey was ready for distribution within a few days.

Annual Meeting (May 12th)

Robert B proposed an agenda for the annual meeting (Appendix), which Council accepted.

Upcoming Events

There will be another Hessel event on July 13, with refreshments to be determined.

There will be a fall gathering event on October 9th for a limit of 99 people. The fee will be \$30 a person, which does not include alcohol. Kim Sears is working on a program.

Weis is reserved for orientation on September 7.

Civil Behavior and Discourse Policy

Robert proposed the following policy:

LLI has no paid staff or presenters and depends entirely on the efforts and commitment of our volunteers. The Council at LLI strongly believes in creating and maintaining safe spaces for our members and visitors to participate in our courses and other activities. Accordingly, rude or disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. Members who believe they were treated rudely or disrespectfully are encouraged to contact a member of Council, in writing, and an appropriate inquiry will be made. If the member who is alleged to have been rude or disrespectful is unwilling to remedy the situation or engages in another instance of rude or disrespectful behavior, Council reserves the right to terminate that member's membership or not renew that member's membership, whichever is appropriate given the circumstances.

Jill suggested amending that to encourage people to contact the president or another Council member.

Motion Upon a motion by Felice and seconded by Carmela, Council voted unanimously to approve that policy as amended by Jill's suggestion.

Deborah agreed to add the amended version to the Policy Manual. Carmela and Susan Christoffersen will determine where to post the Policy Manual on the website.

Policies for Review

Deborah read the following policy for Council consideration:

PROG 07/20. Presenters may bring one guest to attend their class each week of their courses. For online classes, a presenter may submit a maximum of three guest email addresses to be sent the link to the requested classes.

Council members accepted it as written.

She then read the following policy:

PROG 04/22: The opinions and views expressed in the LLI newsletter are those of the author(s). They do not purport to reflect the opinions or views of LLI or its members. In addition, any link to a website or content belonging to or originating from third parties are not investigated, monitored or checked for accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability or completeness by LLI, nor does LLI accept any responsibility for such content.

Council members accepted it as written.

She then read the following policy:

PROG 05/18-B. LLI presenters are volunteers from LLI's membership, the community, and Bard College faculty. LLI does not offer honorariums.

Council members accepted it as written.

She then read the following policy.

PROG 10/18. LLI members who volunteer and therefore have access to our database of membership emails, addresses, and telephone numbers may use this information only for their assigned volunteer needs, and not for any other purposes.

Council members accepted it as written.

COVID Verification

We will continue to follow Bard's Covid policy. The need for proof of vaccination in order to attend in-person classes will be included in the membership application. Linda is contacting new presenters for their proof of vaccination.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Lanser

Secretary

Appendix

Agenda for the Annual Meeting

- Olin Hall (reserved, 8 - 11am)
- Refreshments (Set)
- Music (awaiting for commitment) 8:15 - 9:15 am
- MailChimp (process, etc.)

Business meeting following music

- Vote to approve annual meeting minutes from May 13, 2022
- State of the Organization, RB
- Do Chairs have anything they are especially proud of that deserves recognition? RB will talk about their
 - MM can also mention the survey.
- Elections, MM
- Bylaws, FG
- Tentative budget 2023-24, JB
- Vote to approve budget (final)
- Thank you to departing Council members, FG, DL, JM and CG