



Council Minutes
March 20, 2023
10:42 - 11:53 am
Via Zoom

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

Council Member Absent: Michael Weinstock

Call to Order

President Robert Beaury called the meeting to order at 10:42 am.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Jill and seconded by Jerry, Council unanimously approved the minutes from the Council meeting of February 21, 2023.

Correspondence

Deborah reported that we did not receive any correspondence in the preceding month.

Treasurer's Report

Jerry reported that the only activity in the preceding month was the funding of three of the Seniors to Seniors scholarships. Someone did make a payment through ProClass in March. He thought we had eliminated the ability to do so. Any problems with ProClass payments have to be corrected before membership renewals are due so no one can pay twice.

Technology

Carmela reported that the Zoom license will be up for renewal in May. She is having trouble getting people to join the tech team for SummerFest.

Suggestions: Develop a job description that can be used to recruit people to help.

Carmela has also distributed a cheat sheet to class managers. Point out that signing up to be a class manager or session manager may allow people to get into classes they want.

There has been a problem with the rooms used for hybrid classes when the setup is changed between the Fridays.

Suggestion: Ask presenters to come 15 minutes ahead of time to set up and identify any problem immediately.

Nominations and Elections

The ballot was sent out on March 14, 2023. As of this Council meeting, 112 ballots have been cast.

Amendment to Bylaws

The MailChimp asking members to approve the revised bylaws is almost ready to go, once Margaret has finished editing it.

Annual Meeting

The status of the plans for the annual meeting on May 12 are as follows:

- Olin Hall has been reserved between 8 and 11 am.
- Refreshments are being planned
- The MailChimp invitation will include a link to the minutes from last year's annual meeting. Members will be asked to vote on them at the meeting.
- Robert Beary will talk about the state of the organization.
- Mary McClellan will discuss the results of the election.
- Felice Gelman will explain the proposed change to the bylaws.
- Jerry Brockett will present a tentative budget for 2023-2024. A vote will be taken to approve the budget. He will hold a Finance Committee meeting beforehand and present the tentative budget to Council at the April Council meeting.
- Robert will thank the departing Council members, Felice, Deborah, and John
- A brief entertainment will be provided. It may be described in the invitation.

Robert may ask committee heads and DEI what they are proud of.

Social Events

Robert English provided an update on the following social events:

- Hessel CCS Exhibition Tour and Reception will be held on April 27 12-2 pm. Irene is planning food and drink. The invitation will go out three weeks beforehand.
- Robert has obtained a permit to hold a summer gathering event at Robert Post Park on July 19th. A large pavilion has been reserved, and members can bring a plus one. Irene is working on the catering. We can't go earlier than 4 pm, but people to help set up will be needed. Susan Simon may act as DJ.
- Fall gathering event/ Indigenous Peoples Day dinner for 70 people at Manor Hall on October 9th. Irene is working with Parkhurst on the menu, with a tentative budget of \$2,100 plus wine and labor. The team is working on developing a program. All members will be invited.

Robert will write a newsletter article about all these events.

Robert reminded us that the Fisher Center has asked for a donation. They provided prosecco and snacks before the Iolanthe event.

LLI Website

We need to update the committees and teams on the website.

Seniors to Seniors Tea

The event will be held on April 7 at the Reem-Kayden Center for Science and Computation Laszlo Z. Bito '60 Auditorium.

New Policies

Robert Beaury will draft a policy about missing classes, which he will present at the next Council meeting.

Felice presented the draft of a policy addressing rude and disrespectful behavior:

LLI has no paid staff and no paid presenters. (PROG 05/18-B) Everything LLI does depends on the efforts and goodwill of our volunteers. Therefore respectful behavior and civil discourse are core values for our organization. Any member or volunteer who believes they have been treated disrespectfully or in an uncivil manner is encouraged to make a written (?) complaint to the LLI Council President. The Council President shall make an inquiry. If the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, it shall be brought to the Council, which may take action up to and including a vote to non-renew the membership of the person determined to be at fault.

Council members made several points in response:

- Ideally, any issue would be resolved informally.
- Council should have the ultimate responsibility.
- There is a difficulty in determining how ugly the behavior has to be before invoking the policy.
- The policy should not be made public, because too many people will use it as a chance to complain.

We are at the beginning stage of developing the policy. Felice or Robert can reshape it and send it to Council members for comment.

Policies for Review

Deborah read the following policy for consideration:

PROG 01/13-A. Presenters may promote to their class members. Presenters may provide, to those attending their classes, a list of their upcoming scheduled events, shows, etc. Additionally, class members may sign up to be placed on the presenter's list to receive emails regarding events, shows, etc.

Council accepted the policy as is.

Deborah then read the following policy:

PROG 01/15. The current Bard College Copyright Policy is adopted as Council policy. This policy can be found as an addendum to the Policy Manual.

Council accepted the policy as is.

Deborah then read the following policy:

PROG 11/17. At registration, LLI members give their permission for their photo or video image to be used in LLI publications and communications.

Council accepted the policy as is. Carmela suggested that we say something about this at orientation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah