

OLLI Advisory Council Minutes

Monday, Aug. 8, 2022

Online Zoom meeting

Present: Barbara Schliesser, John LaDuke, Polly Feis, Nancy Comer, Charlyne Berens, De Tonack, Helen Meeks, Carol Myers, Bob Bleicher, Bob Michl, Nancy Mitchell, David Dyke, Mary Ann Losh, Roger Lempke, Paul Van De Water, Greg Jensen, Maxine Moul, Jim McLoughlin

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Helen Meeks, at 9 a.m.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

Helen Meeks introduced the new advisory board members, Roger Lempke and Jim McLoughlin, representatives, and Paul Van-De-Water who will work with Jim VanKirk on budgeting.

Treasurer's Report: Director Bob Michl reported that there was no action on the 2022-23 budget yet as the university accounting department is trying to get caught up with the last couple of months of expenses and revenues. Based on current information, there could be around \$70,000 surplus for FY 22 which would bring the OLLI fiscal surplus to just under five months of operating expenses.

Director's Report: Bob Michl reported that OLLI finished the year with 1,371 members, and he sent a thank-you email to all of them as part of an effort to encourage them to return. The UNL Board of Regents will be meeting on Aug. 11 to approve a lease agreement regarding the Varcity Commons development on the site of the old Cushman factory on Vine Street. OLLI has been invited to become a part of that development.

Helen Meeks asked what the advantages of the Varcity Commons will be. Bob said there will be 17 acres available for senior housing for alumni, emeriti and other seniors, some commercial and retail options, as well as some other-to-be-determined facilities. Lifelong learning has become a big component for senior facilities. OLLI is considering relocating to the area if able to receive office space, classrooms, and parking spaces for this new area.

The OLLI office has moved to Suite 105 in the Human Sciences Building, formerly the CEHS dean's office complex. Bob said the new space works well.

Bob reported he has been elected to the Lincoln Seniors Foundation Board.

Chair's Report: Helen Meeks expressed appreciation to the OLLI council for selecting her as chair. She said she wanted to make herself available to council members and had worked with De Tonack and Bob Michl about the June retreat and on an agenda for today's meeting. She would appreciate being kept in the loop and attending some of the standing committee meetings.

Helen reported that right now, there is no one to head the Events Committee. She said written reports will not be required for each meeting; however, if there are big projects coming up, committee chairs should bring them forward.

She applauded Bob Michl and staff on the Taste of OLLI recruiting event and thanked all the people helping with it.

The Fall Symposium will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22, at the UNL East Campus Union: the topic is Global Food Security. There is room for 250 attendees. In addition to national experts, the event will also have representatives from Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach and the Food Bank of Lincoln to provide a local point of view.

Old Business: It was suggested that comments gleaned from the June retreat should be assigned to the appropriate committees for review. A discussion regarding the age requirement to be an OLLI member resulted in consensus to leave it as OSHER uses it (50 and older).

Additional comments were considered regarding the proposed changes to the policies and procedures that are being updated. There was consensus that each committee should have only one vote, even if the committee has co-chairs. The final wording of policies and procedures will be voted upon at the next meeting.

Roles and Responsibilities documents are also being updated. Standing committee members were asked to review them and be ready for comment at the next meeting. Bob Michl will send out a new document after committee review changes have been proposed.

New Business: Helen Meeks thanked Charlyne Berens and David Dyke for all they did with curriculum. Carol Myers said she will be talking with attendees at Taste of OLLI about travel opportunities.

Jim McLoughlin announced that Gail Hollarbush is stepping down from her role as Ambassadors committee chair, and Marcia Wakeley will replace her.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am. The next meeting will be on Monday, Sept. 12th at 9 a.m. via zoom.