

OLLI at UNL Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025 9-10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Order – Chair Jim Van Kirk called to order at 9:00 am

Present: Paul VanDeWater, Bob Michl, Nancy Mitchell, David Dyke, Jim VanKirk, Helen Meeks, Carol Myers, Gene Stohs, Teri Hlava, Jim McLoughlin, Charlyne Berens, Greg Jensen, Jeanette Wellsandt, Mary Losh, Zakiyyah Mustafa, Audrey Paulman. **Absent:** Roger Lempke

Additions to the Agenda - none.

Approval of the January, 2025 meeting minutes

Motion to approve Carol Myers, seconded by Helen Meeks. Approved.

Curriculum, Committee Report – David Dyke/Charlyne Berens

Co-chairs David Dyke and Charlyne Berens gave a presentation on the workings of the group. There are 8 committee teams that meet five times a year. There are about 80 team members working to develop curriculum. There is a list of potential classes that are suggested, but not currently developed. Course descriptions are developed, and facilitators will be in charge on site or on Zoom. There are also Zoom hosts that run the Zoom meetings and multiformat courses.

Occasionally, people who are not members of the curriculum committee are involved, but they are encouraged to join the curriculum committee. Jeanette is the OLLI coordinator for this. Many documents are posted on the website to help the facilitator know what to do. There is an orientation process to onboard volunteers.

The lag time between suggesting a course and holding the course is being addressed through possible update of technology. Length of a course has to do with the speaker and topic.

Clearing the waitlist was discussed. Several strategies are being used. Offering another session can be an option, or change of location to allow more to attend, or the group is invited to switch to zoom, per Jeanette. Priority is given to clearing the waitlist for classes.

Budget Reports – Paul Van De Water

2024-25 Foundation Report through the end of January. Not many changes. OLLI development line continues to increase.

2024-25 Budget Report—through December, revenue is increasing, memberships are increasing.

Chair comments – Jim Van Kirk

March meeting location March 10th, at Eastmont with gathering time before. Around 2 hour session. 9:00 am, 2 hours, prelude to June retreat.

Director's Report – Bob Michl

Save the date, May 15th, for the Member Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the East Campus Union from 5pm - 8 pm. The dinner for members who are volunteers, facilitators, etc. Thanks to nominating committee for their work. Nancy Mitchell and Bob Michl are planning to attend the Osher National Conference in April. Bob will present at the conference as part of a group presentation.

Glow Big Red is underway. Please give if possible from noon-noon on February 12-13.

Natalie Hahn has donated some artwork to the OLLI offices. There will be an article about this next week in OLLI Connects.

Abi Shelbourn has stepped away from the program. She will be replaced.
Waitlists were mentioned and will be talked about at the March meeting.

New Business

Possible agenda items for the March meeting were discussed.

June Advisory Council Retreat – Beginning Discussion (date/focus) The second Monday has been targeted in the past. That would be June 9th.

Old Business

Nominating Committee Update – Helen Meeks

The committee includes Helen Meeks, Jim McLaughlin (Membership Chair), Nancy Mitchell (Marketing Chair) and Mary Lutz. They were to provide names for the council, and do officers. Two representative seats to fill are currently filled by Roger Lempke and Jim McLoughlin. Jim McLoughlin will continue to serve on the council as chair of the Membership Committee. Roger Lempke will be stepping down at the end of his three year term in June. Fourteen potential candidates were contacted. Nominees who have accepted the nomination are: Gary Timm, Patricia Crews, June Ryan, Charlotte Casson, & Valerie Crook. All are currently on one of the committees or members of a team. Motion to approve the list by Helen. Seconded by Jim McLoughlin. No further discussion or questions. Unanimous approval.

Slate of names for OLLI Advisory Council officers.

Current members were asked about continuing, and all indicated yes, except for the treasurer, Paul Van de Water, who indicated he wanted to step back. Other members were Jim VanKirk, Chair; Audrey Paulman, secretary; Nancy Mitchell, Vice-Chair; and Helen Meeks, immediate past chair. No volunteers for treasurer position have yet been identified.

Motion to accept by Helen Meeks. Seconded by Carol Myers seconded. No discussion. Unanimous.

Thanks to committee members and OLLI staff.

Closing Comments

A recent social pop up at Broiler Brewing Company was well attended.

We have 22 interest groups. A new book club was discussed as well. Game café events in Omaha was highlighted.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 moved and seconded by Helen Meeks and Teri Hlava. Unanimous.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 10, 2025 – 9:00 am (In-Person)

at Eastmont Senior Living, 6315 “O” Street, Lincoln, NE (Performing Arts Auditorium). This will include brainstorming sessions and begin with a 9:00 am continental breakfast.