

## **OLLI Advisory Council Minutes**

Monday, May 8, 2023

Online Zoom meeting

**Present:** Barbara Schliesser, Helen Meeks, John La Duke, Carol Myers, Charlyne Berens, De Tonack, Bob Michl, Nancy Mitchell, Mary Ann Losh, Paul Van De Water, Jim McLoughlin, Polly Feis, Jim Van Kirk, Nancy Comer, Roger Lempke, Bob Bleicher, Jeanette Wellsandt, Elise Fitzpatrick (practicum student)

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Helen Meeks, at 9:01 a.m.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paul Van De Water said the current budget report shows 100 percent of the anticipated revenue already received even before Term 5 registrations had begun. Expenses are at 89 percent of the anticipated costs for the year. The budget report currently shows \$211,000 of carried-forward monies, representing a 6.4 month surplus. Bob Michl said it will be prudent to spend down some of this surplus. The May 10 volunteer member appreciation dinner will be paid for out of Foundation funds.

**Director's Report:** Bob Michl reported a total of 9,105 enrollments in courses and events through the first four terms, more than any other four-term totals in the history of OLLI at UNL. Term 5 has a great selection of offerings, so Bob anticipated final enrollments will be near or over 10,000. At the end of Term 4, our membership was 1,396. The lighting improvements in GNHS 137 have been completed, and Bob said the change is significant. Technological improvements are scheduled to begin on July 17. All of this is designed to improve both the in-person and Zoom experiences of class attendees.

"A Taste of OLLI – Omaha" will take place at the Tri-Faith Center in Omaha on Tuesday, June 27, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. "A Taste of OLLI – Lincoln" will take place in the Great Plains Ballroom of the East Campus Union on Friday, Aug. 4. Times are to be announced.

Bob Michl reported 352 completed membership surveys, which represents a 25 percent return rate. He said he will share more information at the council retreat.

**Chair's Report:** Helen reported she and Jim Van Kirk had met with Dean Sherri Jones regarding Bob Michl's yearly evaluation and the status of OLLI. She reported very positive comments. The dean asked questions regarding OLLI's financial situation, the lighting and technology improvements in GNHS 137, visibility of OLLI and stability of staff. The council appreciated a chance to reply to these areas. Next year, the review is expected to include a more specific written process.

**Old Business:** The advisory board's retreat agenda will include a review of advisory council documents. Suggestions for changes should be sent to Bob Michl immediately. The balance of the retreat will focus on finalizing the OLLI three-year plan.

Helen presented the final draft of the proposed budget for 2023-2024. Jim Van Kirk talked about some of the budget issues in the past. He said we need to continue our positive momentum and noted how far we have progressed from four years ago when OLLI was operating with a negative balance.

Staff salaries are projected to be comparable to those of other UNL employees.

Bob Michl said that the staff plans to use promotional discounts to encourage members to join and renew online.

The proposal to accept the budget for 2023-2024 was passed unanimously.

**New Business:** John La Duke reported the slate of officers for the council for 2023-2024: chair, Helen Meeks; vice chair, De Tonack; treasurer, Paul Van De Water; secretary, Barbara Schliesser. John La Duke will again serve as past chair.

A motion to approve the slate of officers was approved unanimously.

The election for Advisory Council representatives has been completed. Two members of the nominating committee will come to the OLLI offices on May 15 to count mail-in ballots and finalize the election process. John La Duke will then contact all candidates on the ballot to inform them of the results.

Maxine Moul and Helen Meeks will be ending their three-year terms as council representatives at the end of the year. Bob thanked both for their years of service and thanked Helen for agreeing to serve another year as council chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The next meeting will be Aug. 14 by Zoom at 9 a.m.