

## **Advisory Council Minutes**

Monday, September 13, 2021

Zoom Online Meeting

Council Chair John La Duke welcomed Dean Sherri Jones to the Advisory Council. Dean Jones was introduced and answered questions that had been submitted to her in advance. One of them asked how well the use of Room 137 is working out. There were a few enhancements such as microphones that could be addressed when Bob Michl and the Dean meet next. Dean Jones said there is a new budget model being looked at in the future. The last question was around indirect costs for grants and other sponsored activities. The Dean said this varies from grant to grant as well as through the different colleges. She gave some information about a new initiative N2025 that is looking at challenges facing Nebraska. One of these areas is lifelong learning. Charlyne Berens suggested that OLLI be involved in the process going forward. The Dean agreed and will put us in contact with the appropriate personnel. John La Duke thanked the Dean for visiting with us.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

**Treasurers' report:** Gary Buser reported on June since this is a report for last year, and it looks good. There was a surplus of \$79,780, but there were funds deferred for CE until 2022. Jim Van Kirk said that we received \$22,000 in donations when only \$7,500 was budgeted. The cash carry over for the fiscal year is \$94,000 and the reason for this even with COVID was less room rental and good management of staff costs. There is also a continuation of on-line Zoom classes. Gary and Jim complimented Bob Michl on keeping costs low. ~~UNL has allowed parking on campus which has been a big help.~~ There will continue to be hybrid classes in the future that will impact funding. For additional revenue, a modest fee increase was helpful. Helen Meeks suggested this was a much better way to do it rather than having a big raise for OLLI members. Nancy Mitchell reported that marketing is looking at paid advertising and other means to support the catalogs and other printed materials. Dean Jones said she had an idea about other Nebraska opportunities.

**Director Report:** The Showcase went very well. There were 432 registered to attend in person. Of those, 168 were members from 2021-22. The actual attendance was 325. The audio technology was poor so those who attended via zoom were offered a free term 1 zoom course.

"The Fragile Future of Democracy" will be held on Saturday, October 23. The event will be zoomed in as well. The Nebraska Humanities Grant to help fund the symposium has been submitted.

Bob Michl has reached out to three senior living centers to discuss piloting Zoom opportunities. Lifestyle coordinators from the Grand Lodge at the Preserve and the Knolls have indicated they are interested in piloting in 2021-22. The Legacy will begin a pilot in November of 2021. Suzie Harder said she thinks this is wonderful and adds a lot to the Senior Centers.

Dean Jones offered a suggestion for places to hold classes throughout the state. She reminded the council that the Extension Centers would be free of charge to OLLI as UNL owns the space.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

### **New Business**

Bob Michl will continue to monitor the COVID situation, and he will make sure that OLLI abides by UNL policies.

Charlyne Berens and David Dyke presented about the Curriculum Committee. Charlyne referred to the committee as the heart of OLLI. There are eight topical areas that are part of the overall committee. The Curriculum Committee meets once every "odd" month and individual subcommittees also meet every other month. There is a place on the website which includes prototypes of how to submit proposals a class. Facilitators come up with the idea for the courses and then work with Jeanette Wellsandt who monitors all the subcommittees. There are over 50 courses each term. Hiring Bob Michl and then Jeanette Wellsandt has helped make a quantum leap for the Curriculum Committee. Joe Seewald commented that the task is huge with scheduling and coming up with courses. It's amazing that volunteers do all this. COVID changed us, but we had people in place to continue to grow. Joe suggested that we establish a designation for members to be recognized. Charlyne thought that would be an interesting idea. Evaluations go to course facilitators. They can decide whether to share with presenters. Charlyne and David look at the evaluations for further course ideas.

Nancy Comer will present next month on the Diversity subcommittee duties.

John asked that committee chairs look at information from the Retreat in June, 2021 and see if it is correct.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 11at 9:00 a.m.