

Tufts University
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Executive Board Meeting
Minutes: 05/20/2021

Executive Board Members Present: Joyce Carpenter, Grace Hall (Chair), Deborah Lapidés, Kathleen Mayzel, Kim Pratt, Bob Pride, Gloria Rosensweig, Samuel Ruth (Director), Mary Webb.

Guest: Dean Joe Auner

Recording Secretary: Kathy Scanlon

Minutes of previous meeting: Approval of the April minutes was postponed until July to allow for adjustments.

Comments from Dean Auner:

Thanks to Sam, Kathy and the members who all worked together and moved Osher forward this past year. Sam transformed the reach and impact of the program, reaching more people and providing more programming. Sam and Osher have done a lot with the Anti-Racist movement at Tufts. They are a leader in this area.

Philosophy of University College is to serve learners at all stages of life. Goal: Jumbos for Life.

Tufts has managed the COVID crisis well. Safety was the first priority. There has been lots of belt tightening and focused on surviving the crisis. University is ending FY with a modest surplus and not a deficit.

COVID response team is the group making the decisions on the return in the fall. At this time all people must be in the testing regime and non-matriculated students cannot be on campus. After the fall semester things look like they will return to normal.

Member Discussion with Dean Auner:

Sam and Joe will investigate what needs to be done to get virtual access to the library for Osher members.

Talk about the Ant-Racist focus in both the book club and the history club. We will have Jessica Bates come visit and see what Osher is doing on these issues.

Director's comments: Sam Ruth

Thank you to Kathy, Joyce, Grace and all who helped out over the last few weeks.

FAQ about next year will be announced in today's newsletter. March most likely will be the return date for in-person offerings.

Thursday June 17th at noon will be the Annual Meeting

Sam will do a member survey so he can present the results at the annual meeting on how people feel the year went.

July/Aug catalog will be going out in two weeks, looks like approx. 35 courses.

Sam proposed taking a break from L&L for the month of July. Deborah will talk with her committee about it.

Committee Reports:

Brookhaven: Kim Pratt

Things are slowly getting back to normal at Brookhaven. They recently implemented in-person dining and they are being cautious of unmasking. Residents are getting more comfortable with our online

registration system. It will be interesting to see how many residents participate in July/August classes because many are at summer locations for those months.

Curriculum: Bob Pride – full report at end of minutes

The Curriculum Committee meets twice some months, one meeting is just to approve the classes for the next session. Our last meeting was used to approve the class for July and August. A feedback session for members and grad students will be scheduled in the near future. Last July/August we ran 15 classes, this year we are slated to run close to 40. Some members are concerned that not as many people will be interested in taking classes because things are getting back to normal. We will enforce the 6-person minimum per class. The CC will meet again on June 24th.

Financial:

(See New Business Finances)

Lunch and Learn: Deborah Lapidés

L&L's are going well. The quality of the speakers and the attendance numbers are both good. Average attendance in April was 72 and in May 75. We are interested to see how the attendance #'s look for June.

Deborah will talk to her committee about taking the month of July off and maybe August. There is a meeting scheduled for one week from today.

Her committee is looking for a new member

Membership: Gloria Rosensweig

Committee had a meeting last week and orientation and phone calls are going fine. We will pause the Orientation for the summer and do one late August before the September classes start. We will invite any new members from July and August to this orientation.

The committee likes the chronological listing of L&L and evening activities and would like to see this weekly in the newsletter.

The committee is concerned that if we do not get back on campus in the fall, we may lose some members; it could bring down member moral.

Member at Large: Mary Webb

Brookhaven is opening up and people are enjoying the classes.

Nominating: Kathleen Mayzel

There was a motion to approve the nominees for the Member at Large positions and Nominating Committee positions. Vote was unanimous. The nominees will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

Finances:

Sam presented the FY22 budget. At this point the numbers are internal projections not actuals.

Financial Advisor: Grace gave some thought to this position and talked to Sam, Joyce and Linda Budd. She will ask three people to form an ad-hoc committee to rewrite the definition of what the Financial Advisors role will be. After they finish rewriting the definition it will be brought back to the Board and the Board will vote on it.

The three people that will be asked are: Bob Green, Ellen Kitzis and Rory O'Connor. Bob Green will be asked to chair the committee.

Adjourned: 1:57pm

Next Meeting: Annual Meeting, June 17th at noon.

All Committee meetings as well as the Executive Board meeting are open to all members with advance notice to the Director.

There will be an open comment period at the end of each meeting, time permitting. Upcoming meeting dates:

- Curriculum Committee: June 24, 2021
- Membership Committee: TBD
- Executive Board: July 15, 2021
- Lunch & Learn: May 27, 2021
- Nominating Committee: TBD

Curriculum Committee Report – submitted by Bob Pride

The Curriculum Committee met on Thursday May 13th. We limited the agenda to two items:

1. Determine how we can help Kathy and the Osher Office during Sam's absence and
2. Review and approve study group proposals for the July-August Summer term.
 1. The Curriculum Committee is looking at things that we can possibly help Kathy with, including proofreading the catalog, working on feedback forms, and whatever else she could use help with.
 2. We reviewed and approved about 40 classes. There was some concern about how many will run in the summer as we cannot gauge interest for enrollment. For any that do not have enough enrollments we will see if the SGL could do them in the Fall. We cannot know if all of these SGLs will be available in the fall so we shouldn't put any off if there is enough enrollment. If classes go forward that is OK, if not we will see if the SGL could switch to the a later term.
3. Other Old Business items were tabled until a later meeting including scheduling Feedback Sessions for Member and Graduate Student SGLs.