

MINUTES OF OLLI BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 19, 2012, 10 a.m.

Attendees: Chris Le Maistre, Fred DeJarlais, Inga Hoffman, Nancy Thomas, Steve Zaslav, Sally Lester, Corinne Miller, Mark Gordon, David Copp, Ruth Keeley

Minutes: Nancy Thomas

The September 13 minutes were approved as corrected.

Presidents Comments: Chris Le Maistre

1. OLLI Conference November 2012: Chris and Lois Widom worked on the 20-minute presentation of Interest Groups for the OLLI conference. It is in good shape and could be presented at a general meeting in the future.
2. Discussion of Using Credit Cards Online at the OLLI Website: Currently members include their credit card information on the registration forms that are returned to STARS and this is entered by hand and the forms shredded. However, despite precautions taken, there is an inherent security risk in manual handling of credit card information. The UCSC Conferences and Events Office can provide a Portal to enable members to make payments online. The portal is provided by an Online company, "Authorized.net." Apart from the additional security this provides, the classes and Interest groups that members enter on the registration forms can be accessed as EXCEL pages and this should help automate the membership data collection and collation at the start of each year. There is a fee for the portal service and this will also be among the factors considered in the decision-making process.
3. Mark Gordon said the current database system is much improved and now in good shape and asked that questions regarding it be directed to him.
4. Nametags: A discussion was held on the future of our name badges and name tags in general. The fabricator of our current badges is elderly and has had health problems, so it is uncertain how much longer he will continue making them. Inga Hoffman will try to determine if it would be possible to continue fabricating these badges with his equipment, when he no longer wishes to do so. Alternative badge sources were discussed: in particular, name tags that fit in a plastic sleeve and are suspended from a lanyard. This was discussed and several members mentioned their affection for the button name tag that has been associated with our organization for a long time. We have previously said we would like to include membership badge with memberships. Ruth Keeley said she would like nametags to go out with membership letters but the buttons with pins attached are relatively expensive to mail, which would not be the case with computer generated name tags and sleeves. A suggested solution was that we include computer generated name tags with membership letters. However, the traditional badges would be available and members who wish to have them could order them at our meetings, as is currently done. Fred DeJarlais says he makes nametags for other organizations and will look into making them for our group. He will bring a design for a lanyard-based nametag to the next Board meeting.

5. Chris Le Maistre proposed members pay only 25% of membership cost as of April 1st for the balance of the year. Currently, full membership paid in April extends through the next year. Mark Gordon commented that this extension was included in the database. It was moved and unanimously approved that in future the cutoff date for new members paying full membership will be on March 1.

6. Chris Le Maistre had asked Fred DeJarlais to design a certificate that could be presented to “Honorary Members” who are recognized at the Annual Recognition Dinner. Fred circulated two certificates – one for presentation to honorees and the other to speakers at our General meetings. Both certificates were favorably received.

7. Mark Gordon’s recording of Professor Gruhn’s politics talk came out very well. The question arose as to whether her talk could be disseminated to people who couldn’t attend the talk. Mark will look into this further, and call Professor Gruhn and also the UCSC legal department.

Treasurer’s Report: David Copp

David Copp reported there are 32 scholarships to be awarded instead of 31 as reported in the last minutes. It was moved and unanimously approved that the additional award be made.

Interest Groups: Steve Zaslav reporting for Phyllis Wood

Steve will be preparing a definition of “Interest Groups.” Steve also mentioned that a couple of this year’s interest groups signs needed to be changed. Fred DeJarlais said he was aware of the requests and the changes would be made to the signs for next year’s meeting.

Membership: Ruth Keeley

Ruth reported she has 558 paid renewals to date. Also see above discussion about name tags in President’s Comments.

Facilities and Hospitality: Mark Gordon reported everything in place for this Sunday’s meeting. As Mark is deeply involved in the database management, he asked that database management be included with his name in the Directory and on his business cards so members will know to direct questions on this topic to him

Publications: Steve Zaslav

Steve will send a postcard to those who have renewed in the past but have not done so this year.

Events: Chris Le Maistre said he will make an announcement at the meeting for an Events Coordinator. Others on the Board will ask people they know too.

Publicity: Chris Le Maistre says Gail Greenwood has agreed to do publicity for the group. He needs some leads from the Board about whom she should contact.

Speaker Program: Fred DeJarlais

Fred says he has speakers through February. A couple of other suggestions were made.

STARS: Sally Lester reported the Chancellor's Party will be on December 2 this year. All members receive an online invitation.

The next Board meeting will be on Friday, November 16, 2012

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.