

Minutes of OLLI Board Meeting, August 10th, 2015; 1:00 p.m.

Attendees: Dennis Morris, Jennifer Balboni, Lois Widom, Corinne Miller, Sally Lester, Jo Anne Dlott, Cindy Margolin, Mark Gordon, Peter Nurkse, Steve Zaslaw, Bonita Sebastian, Myra Mahoney, Chris Le Maistre, Fred De Jarlais, Gail Greenwood.

Minutes: Chris Le Maistre took the notes as Pegatha was not present.

President's Comments: Dennis Morris

Dennis invited Jennifer Balboni to lead a discussion on the Objectives and purpose of the UCSC OLLI. Jennifer circulated to Board members a document with an earlier Mission statement for the UCSC OLLI and those of several other OLLIs

After considerable discussion it was decided to form a sub-committee led by Jennifer to prepare a new Mission Statement for UCSC OLLI and suggestions were made to:

- a. Invite Jim Faris to participate on the committee
- b. Steve will mention the proposed Mission statement in the Newsletter and at the next meeting.

Jennifer to send an email to Steve on content.

- c. It was also suggested that Jan Jaffe could do a peer review.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Margolin

Cindy Margolin presented the results of her extensive study and review of the UCSC OLLI's financial status. An abbreviated version of her findings follow:

Background Information

- i. The UCSC Foundation collects a fee of 6% on every transaction (Fees from membership, Interest Groups, Donations)
- ii. The Foundation does not charge OLLI the 2% online transaction fee for credit cards.
- iii. The critical figures to track is the “balance” and “carry over” in the Operating fund.

Balance sheet Outcomes for 2014-2015

- i. We are carrying forward more money in our operating Fund this year than last year.
- ii. Last year 30 scholarships were awarded at \$350/quarter but not everyone completed 3 quarters.

Budget for 2015-2016

- i. Budget does not assume any income increase from membership, interest groups
- ii. OSHER will be contributing 13% less than 2014/15
- iii. The operating is carrying forward about \$25k more than last year.
- iv. The amount available for scholarships can be increased by approx. \$20k.

Additional Expenses that should be considered are:

- i. Delegates travel to East Coast for OLLI General Meeting
- ii. Ex-Presidents Dinner
- iii. Possible room rental fees for an Interest Group

Motion

Mark Gordon proposed that the scholarship funding for students be increased to \$40,000 and the number of students receiving scholarships be increased to 32. The motion was seconded by Fred De Jarlais and passed unanimously.

Before concluding the Treasurer's Report Cindy Margolin showed a simplified schematic that she intended to present at the September General Meeting. It would identify our OLLI's income sources and how these funds are subsequently used to support returning students and other OLLI activities.

Events – Jo Anne Dlott

The OLLI Recognition Lunch will be held at Bargetto's Winery on Wednesday August 19th from 12.00 to 3 PM. An email will be sent to invitees to remind them of the date and time of this function. At this point we have 70 RSVPs. Fred is going to send out a reminder notice this week.

Interest Groups – Peter Nurske

Peter commenced with the announcement the group “Exploring Santa Cruz County” led by Leslie Franz will not be continuing. Leslie has organized these visits around Santa Cruz County for many years and has had a popular following, primarily because Leslie was so well prepared and knowledgeable about the sites visited. Peter wondered if it would be possible for three people to step forward and take turns in leading these tours.

Jennifer Balboni's group “How it works, Santa Cruz” will also be taking a sabbatical this year.

Diane Meader is considering a Salon Interest Group in the San Lorenzo Valley. This Group would focus on social interaction via conversation between people of similar interests. Diane Meader had previously tried to start a Scotts Valley/SLV Reading Group with no success. None-the-less, Board members felt that the reading Group was more likely to attract interest than a Salon Group and she should try to start one again. A suggestion was made to identify UCSC OLLI members living in the SLV area from our database via zip codes and to focus on them as prospective members. Peter to follow-up with her.

Cecil Andrews is suggesting a new interest group “Conversations about New York Times”. Peter will get more information.

Peter also plans to restructure the Interest Group webpage and create a new paragraph for the introduction. Peter will be updating the interest group webpages.

Program Coordinator – Gail Greenwood

Dean Yager, Dean of the UCSC Division Arts will be the speaker at the October General Meeting. Gail would like all suggestions for getting new speakers. There was a suggestion to see if there is a speakers bureau at UCSC like they have at some other Universities.

Classes – Lois Widom

Upcoming classes are:

- Introduction to Wagner's Ring: Lecturer Phyllis Neuman
- The 3Rs of Retirement: Read, Reflect and Reinvent: Jill Steinberg PhD
- The New World Disorder” by Ronnie Gruhn
- Social Influence and Art of Self Persuasion: Elliott Aronson
- Modern Molecular Biology: Barry Bowman and colleagues
- Expressivi0: Michel Singher
- Vladimir Putin's Russia: Peter Kenez

There is a lecture on “The Iran Agreement” by Ronnie Gruhn on 8/25 at the MAH.

18 Courses were presented in the 2014/2015 year

Facilities and Hospitality – Mark Gordon

Arrangements are in hand for the first OLLI General Meeting after the Summer Break. It will be held in the Dining Hall at Porter College on Sunday, September 13th commencing at 10:00 AM. This is an organizational and introductory meeting for new members in particular, whereby they can learn about the activities of the Interests Groups and avail themselves of the opportunity to join those that appeal to them. There will be seven clusters with three tables each, set up on the patio, adjacent to the Dining Hall. Interest Group Leaders will be available at each table, to describe their group's activities for the newcomers.

Free Parking for this meeting will be at the East Remote lot with shuttle service provided by OLLI. There is additional parking within walking distance to Porter. Fred will publish a map of the parking which Steve can include in the Newsletter. Permits will be provided as we did last year.

All subsequent monthly General Meetings will be held at the Colleges 9 and 10 dining room.

The Administration of College 9 and 10 is enthusiastically looking forward to this new relationship, as they perceive opportunities for additional interactions.

For example, College 9 has an International Center that houses International students over that academic year. It would be wonderful for both parties if OLLI members could invite a foreign student over for dinner perhaps on Thanksgiving Day.

It would also be helpful if OLLI members could participate in “student run” courses.

They believe the above are partnerships could be mutually beneficial.

Mark proposed a motion that “UCSC OLLI seek to improve interactions with Colleges 9 and 10”
The motion was passed unanimously.

Dennis mentioned that Amy Hamel an affiliate of STARS had recently retired from UCSC. Amy had been a long term advocate for both OLLI and supporting “returning students” at STARS. She was tireless in her support for both organizations. He proposed a motion that “Amy Hamel be awarded honorary membership of OLLI and it was recommended by Sally that \$100 be given in her name to the Smith Renaissance Society.”

The motion was seconded by Gayle Greenwood and unanimously passed.

Sally will make the donation. Bonita will include her in the list of Honorary Members.

It was suggested to have back-up members (a shadow Board) for the Board. Mary Carvalho will introduce this possibility to the OLLI membership at the September 13th General meeting. Each Board member would be required to prepare an outline of their position's duties and functions. These back-ups would be considered volunteers and will not be board members.

A short discussion occurred on the Osher Foundation methodology of obtaining additional funding. It seems that just achieving 1000 members is not sufficient and the remaining requirements may be somewhat subjective by the Osher board. It also does not appear that we will be able to hit the goal of 1000 members in this coming year. At this point the membership growth seems to have flattened at least comparing last year at this time with this year.

Brain Storming was minimal as we had already done a number of things. It was suggested that we try to further encourage diversity of the organization. Discussions indicated that this was a very hard task because of different cultural views and population locations. Should we have outreach groups, should we provide transportation from places like Watsonville or Santa Clara Valley? Perhaps student interaction might provide a means to expand our diversity. No conclusions were reached.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

The next Board meeting will be on September 8th at the Community Foundation Santa Cruz County, 7807 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003 at 1:00 p.m.