

Olli Board Meeting

May 15, 2017 / 1:00 pm / Mark Gordon's home

Attendees

Dennis Morris, Mark Gordon, Lois Widom, Bonita Sebastian, Barry Bowman, Jo Anne Dlott, Sally Lester, Cindy Margolin, Peter Nurkse, Gail Greenwood, Richard Bruce, Margie Lafia, Mary Carvalho, Fred De Jarlais, Chris Le Maistre, Janet Ceja

Agenda

Minutes of the April 10, 2017 meeting by Margie Lafia were approved.

A discussion was held about whether the minutes could be changed after adoption. Several members said that Robert's Rules of Orders apply.

Janet Ceja was introduced as Sally Lester's assistant. Sally said that she had already put in the requests for next year's general meetings. Janet has been copied on everything that she needs to know as the interim contact person at UCSC. Mark said that we had a clear schedule all year without any disruptions. Porter College has been set up for the first meeting next year.

President's Comments or Discussions

1. Election

There were not any new nominations. The slate will be Gail Greenwood-President, Bonita Sebastian-Vice President, Margie Lafia-Secretary, Cindy Margolin-Treasurer.

2. Scholarships

The applicants submit their information to Janet. She then collects the applications and gives them to Shirley Forsyth who is in charge of the scholarship committee. Janet's observations indicate that the recipients are happy and say the scholarships are very generous.

A unanimous decision was made to keep the current scholarship format. We will have fewer recipients but their awards will be larger. Dennis will pass this information to Shirley. The recipients are notified mid-July and the money goes into their accounts around September/October.

Mary would like additional publicity for the scholarships and their recipients so that OLLI members could better understand the purpose and process. At a General Meeting we could give some general background about the students without naming them or have several of this year's recipients come to one of the meetings.

3. Shuttles

The service is working well. One of the scholarship recipients was happy to talk to his passengers about his award. For future drivers, Janet will recruit transfer student recipients before she opens the positions to others.

4. June 4, 2017 End of the Year Party

Dennis said that everything was ready and Sally said that the purchase orders are in

progress for payment. Few registration forms have been received and it is hoped that we will receive more. Fred said that the online form has been available for a while. Jo Anne will bring more registration forms to the meeting. The format for the party was discussed. Barry mentioned that a short program by interest group leaders would be good entertainment.

5. **Sunday lunch**

Lois mentioned that a Sunday lunch celebrating Gary Young's new book of poetry will take place at the Smith Gallery after the next general meeting. John Dizikes will also be there. Reservations are necessary. Lois will send an email with details about Sunday's luncheon to Fred. It will be included along with the information about the June 4 party. Fred subsequently chose to send separate emails for these two events.

6. **Newcomer responses**

Mary has followed up on all new members since January. She has emailed each one on the list who did not go to the Newcomers' meeting. Mary wanted to make sure that their OLLI experiences have lived up to their expectations. She received many positive responses regarding OLLI and its courses.

7. **Dominican Oaks Open House**

There will be an Open House on May 20. They are hoping for more people to come live there. Richard will follow up with this opportunity for publicity.

8. **Financial update**

Cindy was absent.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Parking**

There was not anything new to report.

- **Colleges 9 and 10**

Mark went to a meeting sponsored by Colleges 9 & 10. He met Linnea Beckett. She has been hired to run the garden program. The garden will be a teaching mechanism for food justice and international living. OLLI hopes to continue its relationship with Colleges 9 & 10 developing relationships with the students. Linnea was open to the idea and Mark would like the Board's permission to pursue this effort. Mark will follow up with the coordination between the project and OLLI members. He does not yet know if this would be an interest group or a project. Linnea has a gardening class and a club. This is something to be considered for the Fall. Pat McVeigh was mentioned as a person who might be able to assist.

Dennis will take down the link to the Alternative Spring Break since it has already occurred.

- **Diversity Outreach**

Richard has been in touch with **Michelle (last name)** from the Puente Project. He would like to introduce the Project to the general membership. The goal would be to connect

OLLI members as mentors with students. To build momentum, a table will be set up at the September meeting. The banner could read, “Interested in Becoming a Mentor?” This will give prospective mentors more information about their participation and a follow up with training sessions. Richard is willing to write a personal article for the newsletter, describing his positive experience.

Dennis said that we might need a specific form in order to become a mentor. It remains to be decided whether this would be an interest group or a project. It might be best for the group to meet every now and then to discuss their experiences.

- **Interest Groups**

Peter said that he would be moving away from Santa Cruz. However he would still like to continue on the board.

He summarized the experience of the Community Media Interest video group; he thinks it should be a project rather than an interest group. It needed more definition as to what they were going to do it or how it would be done.

Gail explained that the group was still ongoing with Constantine Lackides. There might be an advertisement describing more about the group.

Board Member Reports

- **Treasurer’s Report**

Cindy was absent

- **Courses**

Lois explained that there may be about 8 to 10 new courses lined up, including more meetings with Ronnie Gruhn’s World Affairs. Lois will send an email to the potential instructors, requesting more information about their courses. We anticipate their responses so they can be included in the newsletter at the beginning of the new OLLI season. Sally still needs to check on the Veterans’ Hall as a venue.

- **Speaker Program**

Jody Greene, next Sunday’s speaker, will talk about the new teaching center at UCSC. Barry has been in touch with many potential speakers for next year. In the 2016-2017 year there were four women and three men for the 7 meetings.

Potential speakers: Beth Shapiro (Genomics), Ed Greene (Neanderthal Genome Project), Slawek Tulaczyk (Earth Sciences), Bruce Thompson (History), Shelley Stamp (Film), Allison Galway (Forensic Anthropology), Stefano Perfumo (Astrophysics), Andy Fisher (Water Policy), Tyler Stovall (Dean of Humanities). Other possibilities to consider are the head of the Steinbeck Center, Engineering/Robotics, George Blumenthal (Chancellor), Games and Playable Media and Michael Chemers (Theater) and Sandy Lydon (Santa Cruz history).

- **Membership Support**

Bonita said that memberships continue to arrive sporadically.

She also requested reimbursement for the purchase of a refurbished MacBook for the Board’s use. The price was \$703.00 A unanimous decision was made to accept the

purchase. Bonita will have access to technical support. A suggestion was made to have Windows for Mac installed for compatibility with PCs. Mark explained that all of the preinstalled software can be saved as windows documents for sharing. An adaptor is also something necessary to purchase.

Bonita inquired about the potential of having an OLLI credit card, which would make transactions easier.

- **Membership**

Myra (out)

- **Facilities**

Mark indicated that all was prepared for the next general meeting. People will be greeted at the door.

- **Publications**

A query was made about whether Steve Zaslow would be able to continue participating on the Board. Fred and Dennis will check with him at Dominican Oaks.

Fred would like to receive the content for the newsletter as soon as possible. It takes considerable time to put it together. The e-bulletin takes less effort and time. Gail suggested that the deadline be the middle of the previous month.

Fred thought it would be a good idea to have a board meeting in August.

It was requested that Lois do her best to supply information about the courses by the end of August. It would be nice to have the course titles in advance.

- **Publicity**

Richard visited the Board of Realtors and was hoping there would be a centralized way to share OLLI brochures with the agents. He discovered that agents are independent and work on their own. This kind of advertising is probably not worth doing.

He was also looking for free Google Space for OLLI as a nonprofit. However since OLLI is affiliated with a university, the free space is not available. OLLI could pay for space using good search criteria. He believes it would be more effective than an article in the Sentinel. Mark made a motion to spend \$200.00 for a trial period and it was unanimously approved. Everyone should be thinking about relevant keywords/tags and let Richard know.

- **Events**

Jo Anne (out)

- **STARS**

Janet Ceja is the temporary intermediary between OLLI and the University.

The food for the first OLLI meeting is already arranged, including appetizers.

- Dennis and Sally were given a fond and appreciative farewell as this meeting is their last. They are retiring but hope to still participate in some capacity on the Board in the future.

- **Action Items**

1. Dennis will pass on the information to Shirley about the board's scholarship decisions.

2. Jo Anne will bring more registration forms to the next general meeting.
3. Lois will send an email with details about Sunday's luncheon to Fred. It will be included with the information about the June 4 party. Fred chose to send separate emails for these events.
4. Richard will follow up with the Open House at Dominican Oaks.
5. Mark will follow up with the coordination between the Garden Project at Colleges 9 & 10 and OLLI members.
6. Dennis will remove the website link to Alternative Spring break.
7. Richard will write a personal article about the Puente Project for the newsletter.
8. Fred and Dennis will check on Steve Zaslou, at Dominican Oaks, to see how he feels about continuing with the Board.
9. Sally needs to check on the Veterans' Hall as a venue.
10. **Next Meeting**
Monday, August 14, 2017 at 1:00 at the Commons, downtown at Walnut and Center Streets.

Everyone agreed to the meeting date, time and location. Lois mentioned that there is a possibility that members could meet after meetings for lunch if the meetings were from 10:00 to 12:00.

A thank you lunch was proposed for Sally. Suggestions were the 515 Restaurant or the Soif wine bar. It would take place after she retires on June 29, perhaps the first week in July.