

QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

Council Members present: Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly, Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Nan McNamara, Donna Ramer, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward, Michael Wellner and Judy Winn.

Council Members absent: Peter Fleischman

Council held its monthly meeting via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Quest President Ruth Ward at 10:00 am.

Council Committees

President Ruth Ward reported that all committees for the 2022 – 2023 year are complete. There are 72 Quest members participating on committees.

Membership Update

Donna Ramer has been receiving checks from members for the 2022 - 2023 academic year dues. Checks are due prior to the fall semester. Members who have not already mailed their checks to Donna are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

Donna is creating a database of former prospective members who will be contacted to see if they would like to join Quest.

She contacted individual members who are currently on a Leave of Absence and discussed if they plan to return or resign.

Quest Member Discount to CCNY Alumni Association Members

CCNY/CWE alumni will be offered a one-time discount of 10% which would lower annual dues to \$495 to join Quest. An ad was written for the CCNY/CWE alumni publications. Additionally, there will be a week-long Open House for alumni to visit Quest October 24 thru October 28.

To help with recruiting, Quest bookmarks are in the works for distribution to friends of members, libraries and other places that might attract new members. QReview and the Quest catalog will be distributed to libraries and other organizations.

Donna met with Beth Callender and Leslie Goldman of the Marketing & Communications Committee to discuss various marketing approaches to attract new members.

Noontime Classes for Members Participating on Zoom-only

Ruth informed Council that Nina Dioletis had suggested leading sessions aimed at members who cannot attend at 25 Broadway. These Zoom-only sessions are open to everyone and will occur every two weeks. Sandy Frank and Glenn Johnston will be the co-coordinators. Sheryl Harawitz, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, has provided Nina with information about how to launch this activity; sessions will begin in the fall semester.

Long-Term Planning Subcommittee Update

Nan McNamara reported that the committee will meet again in September to address these issues.

Improving Presentations: Tutorials on PowerPoint

Wayne Cotter gave a PowerPoint training session (based on a TED book) on how to give and improve presentations.

Donna will send out a tip sheet on how to lead a discussion. In September, she will offer a workshop on how to lead and improve a discussion. This will be in-person during lunchtime. More information will be communicated at a later date.

Summer Encores Attendance

Michael Wellner presented attendance statistics for the various classes held during the Summer Encores program. Many of the post-class activities scheduled over the summer helped boost attendance for summer classes.

Donna reported on the Special Events programs that took place during lunch as part of the Q'XTRA sessions. Sheryl Harawitz, Andrea Irvine, Donna Ramer facilitated on-site (e.g., pot-luck lunch) and off-site activities and Ruth Ward and Ellie Schaeffer presented topics that encouraged follow-up group discussions. These included seeing *The Siamese Bond*, a film from the CWE film festival, a discussion on slavery *The Case for Reparations* by Nikole Hannah-Jones and a symposium on the philosopher Rebecca Goldstein's *Mattering Map*.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee Update

Michael Wellner reported that committee communications are being prepared for the first in-person meeting in September.

Treasurer's Report for July 2022

Quest Treasurer Peter Fleischman, submitted his Treasurer's Report in advance since he was unable to attend the meeting. There were no significant budget related events in July.

Peter's report noted that the transition of the Chase banking accounts to him is not yet completed. Stephanie Butler is assisting with this and it

will be resolved in September. He is researching a question for Ruth regarding liability insurance coverage if Quest offers an exercise class.

New Business

Arlynn Greenbaum requested that the September Council meeting agenda reflect an item to schedule dates for guest speakers for the spring semester.

The Council's next scheduled meeting is Monday, September 12, at 2:45 pm. It will be a hybrid meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by Ruth Ward at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Levin

Secretary