

QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, November 13, 2023

Council Members present: Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly, Peter Fleischman (via Zoom), Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Nan McNamara, Donna Ramer, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward (ex-officio), Ilene Winkler and Judy Winn.

Council Members absent: Paul Golomb

Council held its monthly meeting at 25 Broadway. The meeting was called to order by President Donna Ramer at 2:45 p.m.

General Administration

Donna mentioned that she received positive feedback on our new communications policy (referenced in the October 21 special meeting minutes on page 6 - 7).

Treasurer's Report for the Budget Beginning July 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023

Peter, Quest Treasurer, reported that we received \$7,425 in additional tuition subsequent to the turnover of \$124,575 to CWE.

We budgeted tuition at \$132,000 (actual to date is \$132,550).

One First Republic CD matured in November and was moved to JPMorgan.

Membership Report

Donna reported that we have 249 members as of November 13, 2023.

Reduced Fee for New Members for Spring and Summer 2024

Donna made a motion to reduce the fee to \$275 for new members who join in the spring of 2024 and Mary Ann seconded the motion. The reduced fee, effective January 2024, applies only to a new member's joining in the spring of their first year. Council voted unanimously to approve this.

Leave of Absence ("LOA")

Donna made a motion to discontinue access to QuestCommunity for members currently on a Leave of Absence. Karen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously effective January 1, 2024. Donna will communicate this to anyone currently on a leave of absence.

Marketing & Communications (M & C) Update

Wayne reported that the nature and extent of any new advertising campaign for the spring semester will be based on an assessment by the Membership Committee of whether recent increases in membership indicate that our marketing efforts can be scaled back or eliminated.

He also mentioned that the slides on monitors throughout 25 Broadway are continuously updated.

Hedy Shulman recently joined the M & C Committee.

Curriculum Committee Update

In Paul's absence, Donna reported there will be three new courses for Spring and one current course (Upheavals in American Values) that is evolving its focus.

General Meeting on November 29, 2023

Consistent with previous General Meetings, lead coordinators of new courses only will present at the General Meeting. Wayne will do a Technology update; Mary Ann will address Membership Committee issues and Peter will review our finances. Additionally, Madeleine Brecher will update members on CultureQuest activities; Arlynn Greenbaum will report on the Distinguished Guest Lecturers this term and next spring; and Ruth Ward will preview the 2024 QReview.

New Business

- **Spring Year-End Luncheon**

Michael Wellner recently informed Donna and Wayne that no reasonably priced downtown venue was available on Thursday, May 16 for the spring luncheon. He asked Council to confirm that we can hold the luncheon on Friday, May 17, 2024.

Subsequent to the November 13 meeting, Council voted online to hold the spring luncheon on Friday, May 17 and it was passed unanimously.

- **Revised Spring Schedule**

Donna revised the previous schedule and the final schedule follows at the end of the minutes.

- **Fall General Meeting**

This will be held in person and via Zoom at 25 Broadway on Wednesday, November 29, 2023.

- **Holiday Luncheon**

This will be held Friday, December 15, 2023.

The next scheduled meeting will be held at 25 Broadway, on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 2:45 pm, conference room 7-49.

The meeting was adjourned by Donna Ramer at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Levin

Secretary

SPRING 2024 SCHEDULE

Revision #4: 20November2023

Notes

- **A Week**
 - **Monday: 6 classes (closed Mon, Feb 19)**
 - **Tuesday-Thursday: 7 classes**

- **B Week**
 - **Mondays: 6 classes (closed Mon, Feb 12; Zoom only Apr 30)**
 - **Tuesdays: 7 classes (Zoom only: Tues, Apr 30)**
 - **Wednesdays & Thursdays: 7 classes**

Wk#	A or B	Week of	Notes
1	A	Feb 5	
2	B	Feb 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed Mon only: Lincoln's b'day • Classes Tues-Thurs
3	A	Feb 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed Mon only: President's Day • Classes Tues-Thurs
4	B	Feb 26	
5	A	Mar 4	
6	B	Mar 11	
7	A	Mar 18	
8	B	Mar 25	
9	A	Apr 1	
10	B	Apr 8	
11	A	Apr 15	
		Apr 22-25	Closed for Spring break
12	B	Apr 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom Only Mon & Tues, 4/29 & 4/30 (CWE renovations Classes resume • Spring General Meeting, Wed 5/1
13	A	May 6	Quest election week
14	B	May 13-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last week of classes • Wed, May 15: afternoon perf
		Fri, May 17	Year-end luncheon

Special Council Meeting – October 21

A special Council meeting was called on October 21, 2023 to discuss the animosity and vitriol in a number of emails recently exchanged via QuestCommunity. Wayne made a motion to create a new communications policy and Judy seconded the motion. Council voted to take action to help restore civility on QuestCommunity and to help prevent any similar issues from arising on QuestBusiness.

A quorum of eight Council members were present and the vote was unanimous for the new communications policy to take effect immediately. Following is the new policy that was sent to all members by Quest President, Donna Ramer, via QuestBusiness on October 22, 2023:

Emails on QuestCommunity or QuestBusiness that denigrate any fellow Quest member or attack any member's ideas will not be tolerated. Any Quest member violating this policy will be prohibited from sending any email on these communications platforms for thirty (30) days.

Donna made a motion that the decision to determine if a violation has occurred will be made by a majority of Quest's four-member Executive Committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) and Ilene seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Council Members present for this special meeting were Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly, Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Donna Ramer, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward (ex-officio), Ilene Winkler and Judy Winn.

Council Members absent: Peter Fleischman, Paul Golomb, Nan McNamara.

The meeting, which was via Zoom, was called to order by President Donna Ramer at 4:30 p.m.