

QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

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

Council Members absent: None

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 welcomed everyone back from the winter break and noted that we offered coffee and pastries on the first day back and a luncheon on the second day. Donna thanked the Social and Coffee Committees for all their help.

Treasurer's Report for the Budget Beginning July 1, 2023 through February 7, 2024

Peter, Quest Treasurer, reported that we will receive one final distribution of \$32,000 from CWE in March. We have \$10,275 in additional tuition payments that will be sent to CWE.

Steve Allen informed Peter that the bylaws require that the minutes reflect any additional expenses approved by Council that exceed what was originally budgeted.

We received bequests from the estates of Stu Eisler and Eva Shatkin. Eva Shatkin's bequest is designated for QReview.

The total of all of our accounts is \$967,000.

Marketing & Communications (M & C) Update

Wayne reported that due to increases in membership and that we are close to our cap of 270 members, our marketing efforts will be put on hold. This decision will be reviewed from semester to semester.

Technology Update

Wayne reported that the installation of new equipment work in Room 15-17 has not started yet. Although Council approved this at our December meeting and gave a deposit, CCNY is also contracting with the same vendor for work to be completed during the same time period. When CCNY signs off on its portion of the work, the vendor can provide a start date for the installation.

The costs will be paid out of Quest's reserves.

Nominating & Elections (NEC) Committee Update

Donna announced that Peter Fleischman is running again for Treasurer and Judy Winn is running for a second term as Council Member at Large. Larry Shapiro has decided he would not run for a second term as Council Member at Large.

Karen distributed a chart reflecting the history of current Council members and term limits. The following are the open seats for Council: Vice

President, Treasurer, Secretary, and three positions for Council Members at Large.

Donna will communicate the open candidate positions to all members and the requirements needed to run for Council.

Membership Committee

Donna said there are 58 new members since June 1, 2023. Quest has a total of 259 members. There are six members on a Leave of Absence.

Curriculum Committee

Paul mentioned there will be a committee meeting on February 15. There will be a separate meeting and discussion on future courses as well as the fall catalog. The Curriculum Committee has term limits for its members. Donna asked Paul to review the tenure of his committee members.

New Business

- **Review: Travel/Q'XTRA December motion**

Donna had been asked to review the motion passed at the December 11, 2023 meeting putting into practice that the Travel Committee be alerted about any overnight travel opportunities offered to Quest members via either QuestCommunity or QuestBusiness to avoid confusion and duplication. A motion to revisit this policy was put to Council without a second so the motion stays as originally written.

A question was raised to see if the Travel Committee researched any insurance policies specific to legal liability. Karen will follow up with the Travel Committee and report back at our March meeting. It was suggested that Council get a legal opinion to see if Quest can be subject to any legal liability regarding any Quest trips.

There was discussion regarding how QuestBusiness differs from QuestCommunity. Since we have so many new members, Wayne suggested emailing all members to explain how and when these two email distribution groups are used. Nan recommended that Council first discuss how we manage the two groups (QuestBusiness and Quest Community) at the March meeting. Council agreed to defer this to the March meeting.

- **Review: Leave of Absence (LOA)/QuestCommunity November Motion**

Donna reported that she received several requests to revisit the policy that says anyone on a LOA cannot participate in the QuestCommunity email distribution group.

Wayne made a motion and Donna seconded it to revisit this motion. Council unanimously approved this.

Wayne made a second motion that anyone on a LOA may continue to receive QuestCommunity emails for one year, but will not be able to post on QuestCommunity during that time. Ten members of Council approved this with one abstention.

- **Travel Budget for Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Conference in July 2024**

Donna made a motion and Arlynn seconded it for Council to approve a \$4,000 budget for her and Wayne to attend the OLLI conference in July. Donna & Wayne plan to submit a proposal to present at the conference. Council unanimously approved the budget.

- **Committee Budget Updates**

Donna asked everyone if their respective committees requested any additional budgetary needs. No incremental funds were requested.

- **Spring 2024 Schedule**

Wayne reported that the NEC had determined that the candidate's forum will occur during lunch hour on four days – Monday April 15 – Thursday April 18.

Donna made a motion and Wayne seconded it to hold Quest's election from Friday, April 19 through Sunday, April 21. All voting will be done electronically. Council voted unanimously to approve this.

- **Fall 2024 Schedule [see schedule at the end of the minutes]**

Ten members of Council approved the fall schedule with one abstention.

- **CWE Building Renovations**

CWE will start doing building renovations in April which means Quest will hold classes only on Zoom on Monday, April 29 and Tuesday, April 30.

- **Annual Committee Reports**

Per the Quest bylaws all Committee Chairs (except for the NEC and the CWE/Quest Administrative Committee) are required to submit an Annual Report to the Council. This report describes activities and membership as well as a section on efforts to recruit new committee members. Karen will email this request to provide information for the academic year beginning June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

- **Quest Bylaws and Term Limits**

Wayne addressed an issue in the bylaws under Article VII (C)(4) that refers to term limits for anyone on Council. He suggested the section be revised. He will draft new language for discussion at our March meeting.

The next scheduled meeting will be held at 25 Broadway, on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 2:45 pm, room 7-49.

The meeting was adjourned by Donna Ramer at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Levin

Secretary

QUEST FALL 2024 SCHEDULE

Notes

Monday A Week = 5 classes

Thurs A Week = 6 classes

Guest Lecturers = 6

Wk#	A or B	Week of	Notes
1	A	Sept 3 (Tues-Thurs only)	Labor Day, Mon, 9/2
2	B	Sept 9	
3	A	Sept 16	
4	B	Sept 23	
5	A	Sept 30 (Mon-Wed only)	Closed Thurs, 10/3 Rosh Hashanah
6	B	Oct 7	
7	A	Oct 14 (Tues-Thurs only)	Closed Mon, 10/14 Columbus/Indigenous People Day
8	B	Oct 21	
9	A	Oct 28	
10	B	Nov 4	
11	A	Nov 11	
12	B	Nov 18	Wed, 11/20 Fall General Business Mtg
		Nov 25	Closed for Thanksgiving week
13	A	Dec 2	
14	B	Dec 9	Last week of classes
		Fri, Dec 13	Holiday luncheon