

**Senior Scholars
Board Meeting
November 9, 2022**

Present: Steven Gilbert, Len Norman, Jane Howard, Gordon Haymond, Glenn Paton, Dave Collins, Ruth McDevitt, Don Campbell, Bill Thomas, Ken Brown, Jim Gronquist, Pam Nemecek, John Koch, Carol Kesmodel, Mitzi Czapla, Carlos Glender, BG Metzler, Bob Metzler, Robert Koch, Jeanne Smith **Absent:** Sara Haymond, John Ferguson
Committee Members and Guests: Sue Gill, Sheri Knaebel, Alan Matthews, Jim Renger, Ollie Frazier

President Steve Gilbert called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. Ruth McDevitt **moved** the approval of the October 12 minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Glenn reported that we will be in the black by December despite the cost of returning to Wolfe Hall for the fall term. Our balance sheet is strong, due to income from dues. Our cash position now exceeds \$52,760. On the budget, his research shows us behind from last year in number of renewals and new membership. It was agreed that he will do the preliminary budget based on last year's figures, but assume we will experience some shrinkage, then present the final budget for approval in January. Glenn **moved** and it was seconded and approved to give the Wolfe Hall custodian and his helpers a \$100 each December bonus.

Curriculum: Len reminded us that we have two good speakers left this fall, then the special meeting at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church on Nov. 29. He then turned the report over to Jane, who spoke of the good speakers for next year from a list sent out to board members.

Marketing and Venue Committee: Jane has a need for only four volunteers now that the Covid restrictions have been lifted by the church. She thanked all who have participated. The marketing committee is close to a third group from a retirement community. Don Campbell spoke about the joint meeting with FMBC on Nov. 29 from 10:30-12. The church will publicize it to its 9,000 members, and we will do so to our membership. Tom Hanchett will speak on the McCrory Heights section of Charlotte. The Field Trip committee will try to arrange transportation to FMBC from Wolfe Hall, and those who wish can go for lunch at Laurene's Cafeteria nearby. Glenn **moved**, it was seconded and unanimously approved that we pay Tom Hanchett an honorarium for his speech.

Membership Committee: Pam reported that our current membership stands at 917, with 287 new or renewals. Memberships are not renewing or joining at a very high rate. Pam will compare the Zoom guests with the membership list to see if people are watching for free. If so, we will have to discuss our guest fee. She is still adjusting the questions on the survey, but we are getting a good response.

PUMC Liaison: John Koch noted that there will be a Veteran's Day event in the atrium at the same time as our meeting on Friday. Our veterans are welcome to attend this after our meeting, and the volunteers will direct the veterans to the atrium.

Wildacres: Jeanne Smith gave the dates for this year's retreat as April 24-27, with a cost of \$275 per person. She will start publicizing it on January 13 and start taking registrations on January 20. Margorie Sprull and Chris Brooks will be the two speakers. She needs volunteers for the Tuesday afternoon activities. We have 40 rooms allotted, all doubles. We may be able to acquire more rooms from Wildacres.

Webmaster: Mitzi reminded committee chairmen and others who have information on the website to look at it and update it with her or Aimee so that it stay current. She praised Aimee, who will be taking over the job next year, as well as all the committee. She reminded us also that we do not have a replacement for Chris Pouler as email coordinator. If anyone has ideas, forward them to Len.

A/V Technical Committee: Gordon said the committee is prepared to go all virtual on Friday if the weather is bad. He said Bill Nemecek, Ollie Frazier and Alan Matthews work on the team is invaluable.

Social Committee: Carol said as of this date, she has 14 reservations paid and a few promises for the Holiday Luncheon, to be held in the church atrium on December 9, at a cost of \$25. She will hold all checks until Nov. 18 to see if she has a minimum of seven tables. If not, she will cancel. BG reported 23 people attended Lunch Bunch at Leo's Italian Social on October 21. The next Lunch Bunch will be held in January, and the Field Trip Committee will try to schedule a trip to the Billy Graham Museum in January also, if the current construction there is completed.

Nominating Committee: Don Campbell reported the slate is completed as mailed to board members, with the addition of BG and Bob Metzler to the Marketing Committee. We will declare Nov. 18 the annual meeting date and announce the slate then.

Old Business: Steve acknowledged and praised board members going off the board: Ken Brown, Mitzi Czapla, Carol Kesmodel and Chris Pouler and pointed out that they are still doing a lot off the board. He welcomed new members Aimee Hite, Sheri Knaebel, Len Orenbach and Bill Thomas.

New Business: Len presented a Power Point on Steve and his year as president. He reminded us that there will be lots of activities next year for our 50th anniversary. There is one administrative item coming up in June, our lease renewal.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:21.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth McDevitt, Secretary

