

**Senior Scholars at Queens  
Board Meeting  
February 8, 2023**

**Present:** Len Norman, Jane Howard, Jim Gronquist, Gordon Haymond, David Collins, Ruth McDevitt, Stephen Gilbert, Don Campbell, Alan Matthews, Aimee Hite, John Koch, Bill Thomas, Carlos Glender, Jeanne Smith, BG Metzler, Bob Metzler, Robert Koch **Committee Members and Guests:** Ollie Frazier, Jin Wang, Eileen Griggs, Sue Gill, Jim Renger **Absent:** Glenn Paton, Sheri Knaebel, Sara Haymond, Pam Nemecek

President Len Norman called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Secretary Ruth McDevitt **Moved** the minutes of the January 11, 2023 be approved, the motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Len announced that although Jim Gronquist was stepping down from his position of Second Vice President, he would retain the chairmanship of the Site Committee, and Don Campbell has been appointed by the Executive Committee as Marketing Chairman.

**Queens University:** Robert Koch reported on the activities of importance at Queens that are coming up. They are available on our website and the Queens website. Among the highlights are Homecoming this weekend, a new dean of the McColl Business School, and some author appearances.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Collins highlighted some items on Glenn's written report, sent to all board members. We have nearly \$59,000 in assets, \$57,000 in the bank. Thus far in February we have had 24 people (renewals and new members), two fewer than for the month of February last year. If the current trend holds through the entire month, we will make up for some of the drop-off in membership for this year.

**Curriculum:** Jane Howard reported on her and her committee's work in filling the calendar for the spring and fall sessions. They have only one position left to fill for spring, and she reminded us that the April 7 meeting will be all Zoom.

**Social Committee:** Eileen Griggs reported for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. They are planning a cookbook and anyone caring to submit a recipe can do so by giving it to Eileen in person at a meeting or submitting in email. They also invite submissions of a limerick celebrating our 50 years. The gala celebratory luncheon will be on May 31 at Carmel Country Club and will feature Tommy Tomlinson as speaker and Mary Allen Todd, as well as celebrating past presidents. Eileen **Moved** that we charge \$45 for the full dinner, the motion was

seconded and approved. She needs at least 75 people to attend, and urged all board members to do so.

**Marketing Committee:** Don Campbell reported on upcoming efforts being considered to increase membership. His committee has done a lot of work that includes getting attention and listings from the South Mecklenburg Journal, the AARP, ad placements such as in Axios, and a mass mailing.

**Membership and Directory:** Sue Gill reported an encouraging 588 2023 members as of this past week, plus the 24 Dave reported.

**Liaison Committee:** John Koch reminded us that the meeting on March 10 is at the Queens Sports Center, where the capacity is 250, which should not be a problem since we have had fewer than that at our PUMC meetings.

**Site Committee:** Jim Gronquist said that the Site Committee met yesterday to explore our meeting place for the future. Our contract with PUMC ends December 31, 2023 and we must make a decision on renewal by June 31. He and his committee are negotiating with the church on rental price and length of contract. He also needs more committee members to help scout out potential meeting places in lieu of PUMC.

**Wildacres:** Jeanne Smith reported a strong response of 56 after 3 1/2 weeks of taking reservations. She encouraged all board members to attend.

**Webmaster and Email:** Aimee Hite asked us all to watch the website and let her know if we see anything that needs updating. She reviewed some changes and additions that have been made this month and emailed her report to all board members.

**AV and Technical:** Gordon Haymond said the hiccups they have had in the past seem to be corrected by the new equipment that have acquired.

**Lunch Bunch:** BG Metzler reported that there are already 24 signed up for Maggiano this month. They will continue meeting for lunch the last Friday of each month until May.

**Field Trips:** March's trip will be to the newly renovated Billy Graham Museum. Other trips for the rest of the year include the Charlotte Museum, Hot Glass Alley, (a glass blowing facility) and the Animal Shelter.

**Nominating Committee:** Steve Gilbert has talked to people on his committee and has stressed the need for leadership of the organization. He advocates bringing people in who are not yet members to fill leadership positions. Optimally, they would be in their sixties and have technical skills. If current board members have any candidates, email Steve and he will do the recruiting.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth McDevitt, Secretary