

**Senior Scholars at Queens  
Board Meeting  
February 14, 2024**

**Present:** Steve Lauer, Kathy Gray, Gordon Haymond, Glenn Paton, Dave Collins, Len Norman, Pam Nemecek, Bill Thomas, Carlos Glender, Aimee Hite, Ken Orebach, Jim Gronquist, Steve Gilbert, Kristan Smith, Len Norman, Don Campbell, Patty Kahle, and Alan Matthews

**Guests:** Jim Renger

First Vice President Steve Lauer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Approval of the January Board meeting minutes was unanimous.

**Queens Liaison:** No report this month.

**Treasurer's Report:** As reported last month, results exceed projections, based on new and renewal members for 2024. The payment to Temple Beth El for the March 1 meeting has been made.

**Committee Reports:**

**Social and Moderators Committee:** No report.

**Curriculum:** Steve Lauer reports that only one slot, on April 5, is not filled for the spring semester. Recommendations for speakers are welcome. Fall speaker schedule is wide open. The copyright issue is still pending until new processes for registering speakers can be completed and reviewed by an attorney. Steve is looking for opportunities to pair speakers, either on same day, or subsequent days.

**Venue and Marketing:**

Don reported that the Senior Expo was successful. Exhibitors were pleased with the results, as were members. Plans will be made to hold another in the Fall.

The Marketing Committee meeting this month covered the following:

- Suggestion for a method to provide transportation to Seniors unable to attend in-person meetings. Discussion tabled until research about possible CLT Transit options.
- Recommendation to work on weekly emails to shorten and enliven the communications. The Executive committee will be asked to create an ad hoc group to work with the Email team.

- A discussion to create a printed Senior Scholars Directory decided against the idea. The risk to our members of having their information used to criminal purposes is too great.
- A request to again sponsor Senior Games with a \$100 donation was approved.
- The Senior Scholars Bylaws need to be changed to change the Diversity Committee to the Marketing and Cultural Diversity Committee. Len Norman called the question and Kathy Gray seconded. It passed with unanimous approval. This will require a second vote in March.
- Ken Orebach brought up working to have Senior Scholars represented on “Charlotte Talks” on WBTB radio. He and Len Norman will pursue contacts with the station. They will also work to have The Shepard Center and other senior non-profits coordinate. The topic to be explored is Senior loneliness and the impact on health and longevity.
- Don is relinquishing chairmanship to Patty Kahle.

**Membership and Directory:** Pam Nemecek reported on current membership:

2023 Members = 309

2024 Members = 717

Total Members = 1026

From June, 2023 through January, 2024, a total of 67% of new members learned about us from members or friends (who likely were members). In January, 2023, we had 22 new members. In January, 2024, we have had 70 new members.

Kudos to the Marketing Committee and our membership for driving the increase.

Discussion put off till the March meeting on the policy to give New and Renewal members the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year plus the whole next year if they join in June, or in September. The Bylaws and Procedures documents differ.

**AV:** Gordon reported that in order to prepare for the March 1 meeting at Temple Beth El, the Tech team will hold a practice session there on 2/28. He also reminded of the need for a new VP for the team.

**Church Liaison:** The church will be asked to set up 300 chairs for the 2/26 meeting. Tech committee is asked to send John the requirements for the Temple Beth El meeting.

**Wildacres:** Jim Gronquist announced that there are currently 59 registered, which includes 21 first time attendees. He asked that Marketing send the Wildacres flyer to all members again on March 1.

**Website and Email:** Aimee Hite has updated pages with new officers. Wildacres page has been updated, with January 19 opening registration information available. Currently the Archives are not online. She also thanked Kathy Gray for reviewing the website and identifying areas needing updates.

**Nominating Committee:** Len Norman will chair with Steve Gilbert and the chairs of Membership, Website, Technical and Wildacres. The committee will be identifying 3 Directors and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for 2025.

**Lunch Bunch:** No report

**Field Trips:** No report

**Old Business:** New procedures and policies to prevent copyright infringement are still pending.

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 13, at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Nemecek, filling in for Ruth McDevitt