

**Senior Scholars at Queens
Board Meeting March 13, 2024**

Present: Jane Howard, Steve Lauer, Gordon Haymond, Glenn Paton, Ruth McDevitt, Len Norman, Steve Gilbert, Dave Collins, Alan Matthews, Aimee Hite, Pam Nemeek, John Koch, Don Campbell, Robert Koch, Jin Wang, Kathy and Tom Gray, Carlos Glender, Kristan Smith, Ken Orenbach, Jim Renger, Ollie Fraser

First Vice President Steve Lauer called the meeting to order at 2p.m. He asked for approval of the February minutes and they were unanimously approved. President Jane Howard thanked all, especially Steve for all the help while she has been sick.

Queens University report: Robert Koch reported on an event, Pitch Competition, io March 21, in which both grad students and undergrads pitch their business ideas to win a prize. He mentioned Friends of the Library and an April 6 event when Rosanne Cash will perform a musical program. Check the Queens website for information on all events.

Financial Report: Dave Collins reported that we are doing very well and are receiving \$172-195 in monthly interest on our CD's. We have also recently received \$1400 in dues, well surpassing the same time period in 2023. We have \$7500 in the bank to pay our bills for the rest of the year.

Website and Email: Aimee Hite said all is going well with the website and she updates as committee members give her information. Kathy Gray said she and Mary Gilbert will soon have a proposal for improvement of the emails.

Social Committee: Ruth reported for BG and Carol that the field trip went very well, with 60 people attending. Lunch Bunch at two restaurants also was a success, except for people who had signed up and did not attend, as well as seven people who just showed up without signing up, which they will address.

Marketing Committee: Don Campbell sent out to board members a report on all the areas the committee is working. He highlighted three items.

- We have become Senior Games sponsors.
- In September or October, we will again do a co-presentation with FMVC at their facility to continue encouraging diversity.
- In response for transportation for our members to attend meetings, on April 26 CATS will have a table at the meeting to give out flyers and speak with members about the forms of transportation they can provide, including an Uber-like Para Transport. Don and Aimee will also try to get the flyer on the website.

Membership and Directory: Pam reported that we have 793 current members. There are still 264 members who have not renewed, and they will be pulled from the membership file later in March. The 2024 Directory is live on the website. She sent an email to non-renewing members in February asking them to renew or tell us the reason they were not. With 27% responding (83 responses), 8 had moved, 15 were no longer interested, 11 had forgotten and did renew, and 23 checked “other”. She also plans to make the New Members meetings in person at Wolfe Hall only, discontinuing participation by Zoom.

Wildacres: Jim Gronquist reported 64 current sign-ups and said Passover being during the same days has cut into the normal attendance.

Technical: Gordon reported all is going well. He thanked Tom Gray for help with the set-up at Beth El. The meeting on the 29th will be at Beth El again, with the speaker on Zoom.

Church Liaison: John Koch reported all is well at the church, and suggested we relax our check-in process at the next Beth El meeting. There were no problems the last time so he suggested asking only for membership cards or name badges.

Nominating Committee: Steve Gilbert said the committee consists of himself, Pam Nemecek, Len Norman, and Jim Gronquist. The terms of Carlos Glender, Carol Kesmodel and Alan Matthews are expiring and they need to renew or replacements will be needed. Two very important jobs will also have to be filled, Technical VP and 2nd VP. Len requested time to speak at Friday’s meeting to appeal for a volunteer for the Tech VP position.

Old Business: Steve said the lawyer on the copyright issue has been very busy and has not gotten back to him. As soon as he hears, he will let us know.

New Business: The board approved the change in Policies and Procedures in Section 20, Miscellaneous, to adhere to our current policy of renewals. It now will read: “C. The membership period for both New and Renewed Membership extends from the date of purchase to:

- The end of the current calendar year if purchased prior to June 1.
- The end of the subsequent calendar year if purchased after June 1.”

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth McDevitt, Secretary

