

*As approved 9/11/24*

## **Senior Scholars at Queens**

### **Board of Directors Minutes**

**May 8, 2024**

**Present:** Jane Howard, Steve Lauer, Kathy Gray, Jack Gill, Glenn Paton, Dave Collins, Ruth McDevitt, Len Norman, Steve Gilbert, Carlos Glender, Carol Kesmodel, Alan Matthews, Aimee Hite, John Koch, Kristan Smith, Don Campbell, Gordon Haymond, Ken Orenbach, Jim Gronquist, Bill Griesmyer

First Vice-President Steve Lauer called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. The new Queens representative was not able to attend. Aimee Hite will provide links to Queens activities on the SSQ website.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Finance Committee:** Glenn reported that the Wildacres Retreat earned \$237.12, which has been added to the “Wildacres Life-to-Date Retained Earnings” account on the balance sheet. As is the norm, the Wildacres results have been separated from the regular operating activities. On the income statement, we reported income of just \$27 for the month. Dues income dropped to \$325, but we still are \$200 ahead of where we were at the end of the first month of 2023. The balance sheet remains strong. However, he and Dave have reviewed obligations for the next two months and have decided to take \$1500 out of the CD that is maturing next Monday to cover those expenses.

**Website and Email Committee:** Kathy and Bill reported for the committee that Kathy is working on an email survey for Wildacres to see what interest people may have in topics for the future. Bill talked about the new use of Benchmark for sending our emails and reported that all went well with the new system. Jack was lauded for his ability to get our email list authenticated for no charge because we are a nonprofit.

**Curriculum Committee:** Steve has arranged for the Executive Director of the Earl Scruggs Center in Shelby to speak on November 22. A banjo player will probably accompany him on stage, and a field trip to the Center will follow.

**Social Committee:** Steve proposed combining the Social, Coffee, Lunch Bunch, Field Trip and Holiday and Spring Luncheon committees into one group, chaired by a person who coordinates the combined sub-committees. The motion was seconded by Len and approved.

**Marketing Committee:** Don reported for the committee. He said the CATS exhibit on April 26 went well and they want to do another in September. Also, the Senior Expo in February went well, and the next will probably be at the October 25 meeting. Lastly, a joint project is underway to have Charlotte City Council Member Dimple Ajmera speak at a joint presentation at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in September. Steve suggested putting a link to the CATS

site on our website to connect members with the use of their personal transportation system as a means of attending our meetings.

**Membership and Directory:** Steve reported Pam's figures for the month: Current Membership, 833; 8 New Members in April; 4 New Members in May to date. Also, the Directory is available online.

**Wildacres:** Jim said the retreat was well attended considering the clash in dates with Passover. Forty-five percent of the attendees were new members, which brought a new dynamic to the gathering. The survey taken at the end of the retreat will help in selecting next year's speaker, not political, and will help in correcting concerns of retreat participants. Glenn moved that we forward \$700 from the reserve operating fund to the staff at Wildacres to supplement their gratuity. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Technical Committee:** Gordon said Jack has been a big plus to the committee. Jack has implemented the authorization of our email list.

**PUMC Liaison:** John Koch reported that 220 chairs put out on Fridays is working out and he will continue requesting that number.

**Nominating Committee:** Len reported for the committee that Carlos Glender will accept the position on the slate as Second VP. He mentioned two candidates, Laura Little and John Romano, who are potential candidates for the board and this year are going to be doing committee work. He said that, unfortunately, Ruth McDevitt is leaving her position as an officer of the board at the end of this month, so please let him know if anyone has a candidate or wishes to take the job themselves. He will put an announcement for someone to fill the Secretary position in the email messages and make an announcement at Friday's meeting.

**Old Business:** Steve described the various solutions to the copyright problems with our availability of accessing the archive of past speakers. After much discussion, it was decided he would prepare a rank voting ballot where board members could choose their first and second choice of all presented and the majority would prevail.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth McDevitt, Secretary