

Senior College at Belfast Board of Trustees Meeting

October 19 2022 via zoom

Call to order : Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 9.38am.

Present : Nancy Perkins, Martha Laitin, Beth Sterner, Jim Owen, Ron Jarvella, Richard Koralek, Mayo Bulloch, Marjorie Arnett, Doug Chamberlin, Brian Richardson, Monica Morris, Sam Causon.

Absent : John McClenahan, Deirdre Good, Denise Pendleton, DM Ray.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report was sent out on 10/15/22

Jim Owen asked for clarification on the name and accessibility of the UMF Memorial Endowment Fund, Beth Sterner explained that she had spoken with Kyla Harrison at UMF, learned that this fund is properly named the Hutchinson Center of Belfast Endowed Scholarship & has amended the name in our financial reporting software for next month. This fund was established to provide scholarships for UM undergrad students studying at the Hutchinson Center, we do not have access to the fund but we receive income from it which gets transferred to the Senior College Quasi Endowment fund.

The loss shown in this month's P&L is due to payment to the Hutchinson Center for use of the facilities relating to the prior year. We have not received a bill from them for the current year and so are not yet able to produce a budget.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting were approved with no corrections.

Old business

Belfast Poetry Festival: Marjorie Arnett reported that this successful event held at a donated space in the UFM building on Saturday Oct 15 had an excellent turnout and thanked Jim & Doug for their help on the day, Jim took photos of Senior College members and Belfast's poet laureate reading. During the event people had asked Marjorie how they could become Senior College members and she received feedback that the website was unclear on how to do so, Marjorie will discuss this with Doug. Beth suggested that at future events we could display our brochures/postcards and Marjorie mentioned the idea of tee shirts for senior college members. Nancy suggested that we hold similar events in the future, possibly at the Hutchinson Center and in collaboration with other groups.

Gilda's Club: Marjorie reported that she met with Nancy, Mayo Bulloch and Rebecca Jessup at Nancy's on Oct 18 for an ongoing discussion about organizing an event next summer or fall which will be a catalyst in educating and serving the community to provide support for

cancer patients, survivors and their families. The group is still gathering info from other state clubs and carefully considering how to move forward, they are not ready to report ideas to the board at this time.

Gift certificates: Marjorie reported that she has obtained 8 gift certificates from Left Bank Books which will be put inside gift cards that she has made from her own artwork and presented to instructors from the board. Nancy said that this is the first time the instructors have been gifted as a thank you for their efforts and that we should continue to do this in future.

Nancy thanked Marjorie for her efforts relating to the above old business items.

Curriculum committee : In the absence of John McClenahan, Nancy reported that the curriculum committee is working hard on Winterim and encouraged the board members to think about contributing to zoom 'arm chair travel' talks if they have visited any interesting places in the US or abroad. Nancy thanked Brian Richardson for his efforts in obtaining speakers and he reported that he will make further contact with Amy Fried, Professor of Political Science at UM who has recently published a book.

In the absence of John it was decided to table the discussion on the speaker fees and honorarium.

Nominating committee: Jim Owen reported that meetings to discuss 2023 board members will soon begin. There was a discussion between Jim, Nancy, Beth & Doug about the timing of the election of officers, the current Bylaws say that it should happen directly after the Annual Meeting but as officers are traditionally voted on by the board and not the members it was agreed that the first board meeting after the Annual Meeting would be more appropriate. Doug is currently rewriting the Bylaws and will circulate a draft before the next meeting to be adopted by the members at the next annual meeting.

Nancy, Martha & Beth confirmed that they are willing to continue in their roles & Sam agreed that she was willing to take on the role of Secretary and so Jim moved that the board approves Nancy Perkins as President, Martha Laitin as Vice President, Sam Causon as Secretary and Beth Sterner as Treasurer, this was seconded by Mayo and unanimously approved by the board.

Publicity: Richard Koralek reported that he will be meeting with Mickey Sirota to schedule the press release for winterim. He is also looking into the possibility of having our brown bag lunch courses included on Bendable Maine which is a learning platform and community resource with hundreds of free learning opportunities. The use of social media, particularly a Facebook page was discussed and various board members offered to help with this in the future.

Special events: nothing to report other than the need to look for an event either on zoom or, if covid allows in person, for Winterim.

Operations: Doug reported that he is looking at some registration issues that came up in the Fall semester and wants to create a check list of necessary steps that should be followed for Winterim and made part of the standard operating procedure. He is also looking at the website and asked for any ideas for improvements.

New Business

Fall Session Refreshments: there had been a suggestion that we serve refreshments at the last session of Fall term but everyone agreed that this should be postponed until covid levels are safe enough to do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.39am.