

## **Cannon Valley Elder Collegium**

### **Board Minutes, 2/15/2012**

The Board of Directors of CVEC met at the Northfield Senior Center on February 15, 2012. A quorum being present, Board Chair ReJean Schulte called the meeting to order at 3:50 P.M.

1. An agenda having been circulated to the members of the Board prior to the meeting, Board Chair Schulte asked the Board to approve the agenda. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the agenda was approved unanimously and without discussion.
2. Board Chair Schulte next asked that the minutes of the January meeting of the Board be approved in the form circulated to the members of the Board prior to the meeting. There was a brief discussion, after which the Board requested the inclusion of an additional paragraph in substantially the following form:

The Board affirmed the use of the CVEC website to acknowledge the loss of past or present faculty and members of the Board. It was noted that this reaches the membership more quickly than if notice were given only in CVEC's periodic newsletters.

A motion to approve the Minutes in the form circulated to the Board, but with the additional paragraph, was duly made and seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously in the form circulated, but with the additional paragraph.

3. Executive Director Ed Lufkin asked for feedback on his recent use of the CVEC website to circulate documents of interest to the Board and membership. Two members of the Board reported some difficulty in opening documents appearing on the website, but it was not certain where the difficulty lay, i.e. whether the recipients' computers might be at fault. Ed will follow up. Ed also reported briefly on his recent implementation of the bereavement policy, which was received favorably by the Board. The spouse of one former faculty member had suggested setting up a memorial fund, the proceeds to go to CVEC. Details about the memorial fund are to be included in the deceased's obituary. It was

suggested that a link to the obituary ought to be placed on the CVEC website when the obituary becomes available.

4. Operations Director Dave Halsor reported that he has placed course registration forms on the CVEC website in downloadable form, and he will place evaluation forms on the website soon. The box for registration forms for the Spring trimester had already been placed in the Senior Center on the date of the Board meeting, and any registration forms placed in the box before the “official” registration date will be treated as having been received on that date. Finally, Dave reported that the “Minnesotans in the Civil War” course scheduled for the Spring trimester will be on a compressed schedule – starting later and ending earlier than the usual eight-week courses, but still having eight two-hour sessions.
  
5. Curriculum Committee Chair Jim McDonnell reported that the Committee is already considering courses for next Fall, Winter and Spring trimesters. He solicited ideas from the Board and asked that they be sent by email.

Jim then reported on a meeting of the Curriculum Committee held the day before the Board meeting. The main subject of discussion at the Committee meeting was the proposed Summer film festival. The Committee has a preliminary list of four films, and has discussed licensing costs, remuneration to faculty, tuition, publicity, classroom requirements and other details. Some progress has been made in identifying faculty. Mike Harper said that the Boards of the public library and East Side Neighborhood Association have heard about the proposed festival, and would make their email lists available to aid in publicity. A next step is for Rich Noer to approach Carleton’s Steve Richardson again, to discuss details.

Jim next reminded the Board that the summer Shakespeare event is scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup>. Several Board members have attended past events, and are unanimous in praising the experience. On motion duly made and seconded and unanimously approved, the Board approved CVEC’s co-sponsoring the event with the Senior Center.

6. Next, Jim Holden reported for the Nominating Committee. The Committee has identified 3 people who have agreed to serve. They are Barbara Evans, Dick Crouter and George Weeks. There will be two vacancies on the Curriculum Committee. Perry Mason has agreed to fill one vacancy. Diane Hagen will discuss service on the Committee with CVEC members who reside in Faribault.
7. Jerry Mohrig reported that no significant progress had been made regarding technology, but that discussions are planned with a Senior Center technology consultant. Further discussion by the Board was deferred to the next meeting
8. Rich Noer reopened the discussion of the Summer film festival. He said that it's been decided not to limit numbers of students, and that he's tentatively recommending charging \$25 for the series, i.e. half of the tuition for a full course. He now thinks the festival ought to be in July.
9. Bruce Roberts led a discussion of "Idea Harvest." He suggests that teams of two or three CVEC people would talk to groups of elders. The three aims of these meetings would be to encourage more people to be CVEC students, identify teachers and topics of interest, and help the people who come to the meetings to know each other better. He thinks that the overriding goal is to enhance the welfare of elders, who are always better off to the extent they engage their minds. Bruce says that the next step will be to get people who share his vision to discuss "Idea Harvest" and shape a more concrete proposal for the Board.

There followed a general discussion of "Idea Harvest." Some of the ideas expressed were as follows:

Perhaps a first step would be to attend and present at meetings of the Northfield and Faribault ministerial associations.

The form of the meetings might include solicitation of attendees' interests (i.e., what courses would interest them), but in order to get elders to attend the meetings, there would need to be some sort of presentation by the CVEC presenters. Perhaps a short sample of a CVEC course could be offered.

One aim of “Idea Harvest” should be to reach the percentage of the elder population that, for whatever reason, does not “step up.”

ReJean suggested that, while no formal Board action was necessary, it would be appropriate to place an “endorsement” of “Idea Harvest” in these Minutes. A number of Board members voiced their concurrence with this suggestion. Accordingly, let these minutes reflect the following:

Having heard and approved a presentation by Bruce Roberts regarding “Idea Harvest,” the Board endorses the concept of “Idea Harvest.” The Board thanks Bruce for the useful and important work he has already done, and encourages him to continue his work with the support of the Board. The Board looks forward to a further report and discussion of “Idea Harvest” at Bruce’s convenience.

10. Upon motion duly made and seconded and without discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Michael H. Harper, Jr.  
Secretary