

Cannon Valley Elder Collegium

Minutes of Board Meeting

April 15, 2020

The meeting of the CVEC Board of Directors took place on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, with members participating remotely using Zoom technology, with Perry Mason serving as host. Members in attendance were Dale Talley, Barbara Crouter, Susan Evans, Peg Morrison, Karolyn Bertelsen, David Norman, Steve Kelly, Phil Eaves, Bob Speckhals, and Mary Ho. Also attending were staff members Carol Rutz, Perry Mason, and Bill Rizzo; Faribault Committee Co-Chair, Sue Carlson; and former CVEC Executive Director Rich Noer. Absent were Board members Joan Drenth, Art Higinbotham, and Dan Van Tassel.

1. Vice-Chair Dale Talley called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.
2. Dale asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Board minutes of February 19, 2020. There being none, Bob Speckhals moved and Peg Morrison seconded that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.
3. Carol Rutz reported that the CVEC tote bags are ready and that she can deliver them to Board members and staff. She also reviewed the proposed Board officers for 2020 – 2021: Dan Van Tassel, Chair; Art Higinbotham, Vice-Chair; Susan Evans, Secretary; and Karolyn Bertelsen, Treasurer. The voting process by e-mail and postal mail this summer will be only slightly changed from last year.
4. Bill Rizzo noted that the Schwab equity funds balance remains healthy and that CVEC has an additional payment of \$3,500.00 to make at the conclusion of work on the CVEC website. Regarding the budget, Bill said that despite the cancelled spring courses, he expects that the organization will meet its budget goals for the fiscal year. Bill reported that he issued 172 refunds, and that no one requested return of a donation. Karolyn Bertelsen said that the white board for Village on the Cannon still needs to be purchased. Carol added that the new website will be able to support the Zoom application for remote learning, with each instructor needing a Zoom license, at a cost of about fifty dollars each. It was noted that this is less expensive than room rental costs at some of our teaching venues.
5. Perry Mason reported that all 11 spring 2020 courses were cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic, and that all instructors have been offered the opportunity to teach their courses next academic year. He said that 9 faculty have indicated that they would like to teach in an upcoming term. Perry reported that there are 15 courses planned for fall, 12 for winter, and 8 or 9 for spring 2021. At present there are no courses planned for Faribault. At this point, it is thought that registration for fall courses will go forward, although there is uncertainty as to how the courses will be delivered. The Curriculum Committee has discussed some ideas for

remote learning. One idea that was discussed but not approved was to videotape a faculty presentation and then post it for future viewing by students. Preferred by the Curriculum Committee was a plan to use Zoom technology for real time, interactive classes. Rich Noer said that he felt that Zoom would work for CVEC courses and was certainly worth trying. Perry said that there was talk to limiting such classes to 12 – 14 students, although Peg Morrison said that she was taking a course via Zoom at St. Thomas with 150 students. She said that student microphones were all muted, and that each student took a Zoom training before the course began. Members present voted that the Curriculum Committee should develop a plan to offer courses using Zoom technology for the fall 2020 term, if courses cannot be conducted in person. With regard to the reception for retiring faculty at St. Olaf and Carleton, planned for June 24, Perry said that this will be postponed, at least until late summer. He said that 2 Carleton faculty and 9 St. Olaf faculty are retiring this spring.

6. Phil Eaves reported that the Nominating Committee has identified four candidates to replace retiring CVEC Board members: Colleen Vitek, Jill A. Ballard, Robert Nyvall, and David Peterson. Retiring Board members are Dale Talley, Joan Drenth, Phil Eaves, Peg Morrison, and Mary Ho. In addition, Phil said that Jane McWilliams is resigning as a member of the Nominating Committee, and he also reminded the Board that the Committee needs to be chaired by a Board member. Dale Talley raised the question of whether the Board still wants to consider moving at some time to 11 members, or wants to set a minimum of 13 members. Peg moved and Barbara Crouter seconded that the CVEC Board of Directors be comprised of 13 members. Motion carried. The Nominating Committee will continue to seek a fifth candidate for Board membership, and Phil recommended that a member of the Executive Committee approach a Board member regarding serving as chair of the Nominating Committee.
7. Bill reported that Rich Noer has not yet heard from Weitz Center staff as to whether the center will be available for a film festival this summer. Rich said that he thinks that the film festival will most probably not take place in 2020. Board members were in agreement.
8. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 3:45 p.m., location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

9. Mary Ho, Secretary