

**Cannon Valley Elder Collegium  
Annual Meeting Minutes  
October 20, 2019**

The annual membership meeting of the Cannon Valley Elder Collegium took place on October 20, 2019 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Northfield. A group of 39, comprising Board directors, CVEC staff members, students, faculty, and guests were present. Pie, ice cream, and beverages were available prior to and during the meeting.

1. CVEC Board Chair Dan Van Tassel called the meeting to order at 2:16 p.m. and he welcomed all CVEC members to the Annual Meeting.
2. Executive Director Carol Rutz reported that 2018-2019 was a positive year for CVEC revenue, that student registrations have exceeded 200 per term, and that each term has included approximately 14 course offerings. Students continue to come from a number of communities, including from Wisconsin, with Northfield residents making up the largest number. Carol acknowledged all of the donations given to CVEC, and noted in particular the donation given by the Dekker family. The CVEC Board has decided to use these funds to support CVEC instructors in their classroom teaching roles. To that end, a Technical Committee has been formed and currently the committee, chaired by Board member Steve Kelly, is working to upgrade technology at the Nygaard Theater at the Northfield Retirement Community and at Village on the Cannon. Carol emphasized that the Dekker family gift will be spent to improve the student and instructor experience rather than added to CVEC assets. Carol also reported that the CVEC website is on a WordPress platform that will not continue to be supported. She and Rich Noer will be meeting with a consultant to discuss next steps for a website. Carol also expressed her thanks to Rich for all of his help and support as she transitions to the Executive Director position.
3. Treasurer Karolyn Bertelsen reported that CVEC finances are sound, and she thanked Finance Director Bill Rizzo for his work and everyone who has offered financial support to CVEC.
4. Dan recognized the following individuals for their work on behalf of CVEC:  
Recently retired Board members Jean Haslett, Ed Lufkin, Jerry Mohrig, and Eric Nelson  
New Board members Susan Evans, Art Higinbotham, and David Norman  
Renewing Board member Steve Kelly  
Recently retired staff member Rich Noer  
5-year faculty Mary Caroline Henry and Dan Van Tassel  
15-year faculty Jim McDonnell
5. CVEC Board member and Nominating Committee Chair Phil Eaves introduced newly elected Board members Susan Evans, Art Higinbotham, and David Norman. He said that other Nominating Committee members are Jane McWilliams, Tim Madigan, and Gordon Olson. Phil also noted that the Committee is seeking candidates to replace Board members who will be retiring next year, and he urged all present to let him or other Committee members know of persons interested in becoming active, engaged Board members.

6. Carol introduced recently elected Board officers Dan Van Tassel, Chair; Dale Talley, Vice Chair; Karolyn Bertelsen, Treasurer; and Mary Ho, Secretary.
7. Carol recognized the members of the Nominating Committee: Chair, Phil Eaves and members Jane McWilliams, Tim Madigan, and Gordon Olson.
8. Former CVEC Executive Director and current student and instructor Rich Noer spoke on the topic of "For Better or for Worse: Memorable Teachers of a Lifelong Learner." For his presentation, Rich described the varying teaching styles and methods of three memorable teachers from elementary school to university. These individuals used methods ranging from authoritarianism, to questioning, to emphasizing process over content. Relating this to his work at CVEC, Rich said that rather than an authoritarian approach, CVEC promotes exploration of new vistas, thinking, questioning, and moving into new dimensions.
9. Dan thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ho, Secretary