

Cannon Valley Elder Collegium January Board Meeting

3:45 pm, Wednesday, January 19, 2022
Via Zoom Video Conference, Carol Rutz, Host

Members Present: Jill Ballard, Karolyn Bertelsen, Barbara Crouter, Susan Evans, Arthur Higinbotham, Patricia Johnson, Stephen Kelly, David Norman, Robert Nyvall, David Peterson, David Sauer, Peggy Sheldon, Colleen Vitek

Staff Present: Carol Rutz, Dan Sullivan, Nicole Barnette

1. Meeting called to order by Board Chair Arthur Higinbotham at 3:45 pm. Due to technical issues with Arthur's computer, Susan Evans assumed the Chairmanship.
2. November minutes were approved as corrected.
3. Staff reports:
 - a.) Executive Director, Carol Rutz.

Carol met with Nominating Committee and learned that Tim Madigan and Gordon Olson are going off the committee. The Nominating Committee and Board members are encouraged to seek possible new members to be placed on the May ballot.

Peggy Sheldon will leave the Nominating Committee and join the Publicity Committee. Patricia Johnson will be the new Nominating Committee chair.

The Summer Film Festival is uncertain. Previously, a different film was shown each Tuesday night for four successive weeks in the Weitz Center on the Carleton Campus followed by a Wednesday seminar. The ongoing pandemic may not allow the facility to be available. However, the Summer Film Festival Committee will be meeting to consider dates and other details.

In addition to names of the Nominating Committee members (one-year terms), the ballot distributed online this summer includes the Board officers. Art will retire from the chair, yielding to Sue, the current vice chair. A new vice chair is needed. If either the current secretary or treasurer would like to leave their position, please notify Carol. Otherwise, those positions can continue. Carol also

needs to know if anyone plans to resign—for any reason—from the Board after the May meeting.

b.) Finance Director, Nicole Barnette.

See Handouts for fund balances and enrollment.

The fall enrollment was 152 students. Eight dropped out during the Fall term due to various personal concerns such as Covid or that the anticipated subject matter was not what they thought it was.

c.) Curriculum Director, Dan Sullivan.

See handout. There are no literature courses scheduled for Spring term. The Curriculum Committee is striving for 14 to 15 courses each term. A question was raised if the corals, oceans and climate course to be taught in the Spring term was a repeat course due to a similar course title taught Fall term. Dan will confirm that the new course contains different material. If not, it will be designated a repeated course in our publicity.

A discussion was held on Covid safety issues at Village on the Cannon (VOC) and other venues. The Rice County Historical Society venue apparently has less stringent rules regarding Covid safety, but Peggy Sheldon suggested CVEC continue to maintain strict disease prevention rules. Four courses previously labeled either in person or online will be taught via Zoom. A further discussion ensued concerning Covid prevention.

A discussion followed on what makes a good course. See Handout of Second Draft. Some wording in the Second Draft was questioned but allowed to remain. Three criteria were cited. a.) CVEC's mission is to create and teach college-level courses in the liberal arts available to elders in the Cannon Valley of Minnesota and elsewhere when courses are taught via Zoom. b.) CVEC courses are to be taught by someone well qualified to teach it. c.) A good CVEC course is to be taught in such a way as to stimulate high student engagement.

A motion was made by Patricia Johnson, seconded by David Peterson that the document "What makes a good course" be included in the CVEC by-laws. Motion passed with one abstention.

4. Committee Reports.

a. Annual Meeting Task Force, Barbara Crouter, Karolyn Bertelsen, and Peggy Sheldon.

Barbara Crouter explained that the Annual Meeting as hard to make plans for, due to the current pandemic. However, the by-laws stipulate there be an annual meeting. Peggy Sheldon suggested two possibilities, i.e., either change the by-laws or hold the Annual Meeting via Zoom.

Pat Johnson questioned why the Annual Meeting could be held in the spring or fall but has been held in the fall. Carol Rutz explained there were too many conflicts in the spring, i.e., graduation, proms, etc. Therefore fall has been a less busy time.

Stephen Kelly suggested the Annual Meeting be canceled because there is no compelling reason to hold it this year, given the pandemic and logistical problems. Stephen made the motion the Annual Meeting not be held for 2021; Coleen Vitek seconded. The motion carried unanimously. There will be no 2021 Annual Meeting.

b. Publicity Committee, David Norman Chair.

One thousand copies of the brochure were printed at a cost of \$465.00. Thank you to Jill Ballard, David Peterson, Karolyn Bertelsen, and David Sauer for their assistance in distributing the brochures in Northfield and surrounding area.

Peggy Sheldon is welcomed to the Publicity Committee, as noted above.

There were no further committee reports.

Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm.

Respectively submitted, Robert Nyvall, Secretary.