

COUNCIL MINUTES...September 17th 2018 2:30PM

Council members present were Phil Gisser, Marian Friedmann, Betty Farber, Eileen Kelly, Steve Allen, Jane Lubin, Bob Gottfried, Carolyn McGuire, Jennifer Jolly, Pam Gemelli, Frieda Lipp

Steve Allen presented the Financial Report and indicated that Quest continues to be in good financial shape. Our revenue from member fees is already in excess of the amount budgeted and our reserves have grown slightly over the past two years.

Bob Gottfried announced that he, Marian Friedmann and Steve Allen would be meeting with Dean Mercardo next week to review our obligation to CWE in the coming academic year.

Our membership is active this Fall and we have had 32 new members sign up. About three-quarters of them have been referred by present members and about one-quarter from the website. There seems to be no problem in attrition even with the "leaves of absence".

A discussion commenced regarding the 25th Anniversary of Quest. There will be a celebration and a committee was appointed by Bob Gottfried. Members of this committee are Marian Friedmann, Jane Lubin, Michael Wellner, Bob Hartmann and Howard Salik. A motion was made to approve this committee and passed unopposed.

For future Council meetings it was determined that some Committee Chairpersons will be invited to speak regarding an update for their committee. The following will be invited to attend the October 1st meeting:

Caroline Thompson to discuss scheduling conflicts and Frieda Lipp regarding the Diversity committee and Michael Wellner re Membership.

Bob presented the Spring Schedule.

February 4th A Week - first day of classes

Spring Break, 22-25 of April

May 16th is last day of classes.

A lengthy discussion regarding the Leave of Absence Policy was held.

With an increasing number of members requesting leaves of absence over the past two years, the Council has decided that a formal leave of absence policy is needed. The policy unanimously adopted by the Council is:

"Any Quest member may request a one year leave of absence. After one year, as long as that member sends in their annual dues during the membership renewal period, they are guaranteed membership renewal. If a member does not return to Quest after a one year leave of absence, they may later reapply for admission, but their readmission cannot be guaranteed. In exceptional circumstances, such as prolonged health issues, the Council may grant an extension to a leave of absence beyond one year."

After another discussion the council proposed and accepted the resolution that the Founding Members of Quest will be honored at our 2020 Celebration AND effective immediately the annual tuition of \$550 from our five still active members will be waived. Since tuition for this year has probably already been paid, there will be a total reimbursement for this year. Bob Gottfried will notify these members of the new policy.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 . The next meeting will be held Monday October 1st at 2:30

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn McGuire

