

## **QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **Monday, March 1, 2021**

**Council Members present:** David Bernard, Stephanie Butler, Wayne Cotter, Pam Gemelli, Bob Gottfried, Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Frieda Lipp, Penelope Pi-Sunyer, Ruth Ward and Michael Wellner.

**Council Members absent:** None

*Due to the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown, this monthly meeting was held via Zoom call. The meeting was called to order by Quest President Bob Gottfried at 4:00 pm.*

#### **Bylaws Revision**

David Bernard recommended a small change to Section V(C)(3)(a) of the proposed bylaws regarding one of the Treasurer's responsibilities from "Be responsible for all of Quest's financial matters" to "Be responsible for **managing** all of Quest's financial matters."

Council agreed to this change and Wayne Cotter will send it to Steve Allen for inclusion to the proposed bylaws.

#### **Communication of the Bylaws Revisions to Membership**

Quest President Bob Gottfried recommended we communicate the proposed changes to the bylaws to membership prior to taking a vote. Council agreed to this and there will be two Noontime Knowledge informational sessions set up for Monday,

March 15 and Tuesday, March 16 (from 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm) so membership can hear about and discuss the proposed changes. Council and the Bylaws Revisions Committee will participate in these sessions.

Steve Allen will put together a short explanation of the changes to the bylaws, the proposed new bylaws and the marked-up copy of what was added or omitted. This information will be emailed to membership prior to the meetings. After the meetings, membership will vote on the changes.

### **Discussion of Allowing Zoom Members to be Full-Time Members**

The Membership Committee unanimously voted that they don't feel it's appropriate to interview Zoom members remotely for full membership. In-person interviews will resume once we return to 25 Broadway and the number of total members will once again be subject to our cap.

### **Privileges for Zoom Members vs. Full Members**

Council voted on designating what Zoom members can and cannot do.

Council unanimously agreed that Zoom members can give presentations, and submit artwork and written materials to Quest publications. Zoom members may also join committees on a case-by-case basis subject to Council's approval.

Council unanimously agreed that Zoom members **cannot** hold office, vote in Council elections, chair a committee or be a lead coordinator of a course.

### **Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC)**

Chair of the NEC, Roy Clary, emailed membership that eight candidates have decided to run for Council. Bob emailed membership that if anyone else is interested in running, they can self-nominate for Council.

On Monday, April 26 and Wednesday, April 28, there will be two sessions for candidates to speak. Both sessions will be recorded. Voting will start April 29, 2021 and end May 2, 2021. The ballots will be counted on May 3, 2021. New Council members will be invited to join the Council meeting on Monday, May 10, 2021.

Wayne Cotter noted that under the bylaws, any candidate for President must have served on Council.

### **Marketing and Communications Committee (M & C) Report**

Martha Drezin sent the M & C Committee report to Karen Levin. Council reviewed the report.

### **Conflict of Interest Statement & Disclosure**

Karen Levin reminded Council that Quest bylaws require all Council members to read and sign an annual Conflict of Interest statement. Council agreed that a consent via email is acceptable and should be sent to Karen who will forward to David Judlowitz, Chair of the Audit Committee.

## **Treasurer's Report for March 2021**

Quest Treasurer Stephanie Butler presented the report.

### **Membership**

- Our budget is \$41,150. There were no significant changes since last month. We received 247 checks from spring members and 34 checks from fall members, resulting in income of \$42,150.

### **Expenses**

- We are on target for expenses. Our budget for annual expenses is \$43,273. To date, we have spent \$27,443.

### **New Business**

#### **Quest Membership Roster**

Quest's Membership Committee maintains three versions of the roster, all of which contain contact information:

- The full roster of members
- The roster that members can request from Donna Ramer (members can opt out of this version)
- The website version on the private section of our website (members can opt out of this version)

Some Quest members recently expressed concerns about a privacy breach of the version of the roster that appears on the private website. In response, our webmaster Michael Russo more fully secured the roster on the website. The roster still can

be viewed on the private site, but is no longer linked to a URL address that could be accessed by nonmembers.

Council discussed the pros and cons of removing the roster from the website, and ultimately decided to keep the list on the private website. Members with concerns or who would like their names removed from the private site roster should contact Donna Ramer at [donnaramer1@gmail.com](mailto:donnaramer1@gmail.com).

The Council's next scheduled meeting is Monday, April 5, at 4:00 pm.

*The meeting was adjourned by Bob Gottfried at 5:20 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Levin

Secretary