

QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, October 4, 2021

Council Members present: David Bernard, Stephanie Butler, Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly, Bob Gottfried, Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Nan McNamara, Donna Ramer, Ruth Ward and Michael Wellner.

Council Members absent: Penelope Pi-Sunyer

Our first monthly in-person meeting since the pandemic was held at 25 Broadway with some members participating via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Quest President Ruth Ward at 2:45 pm.

Quest Website Update

Quest Webmaster Michael Russo updated Council on the website. The public site has not changed. However, the private site was updated so that the latest listing of NWAQ is now accessible via the website. All members will continue to receive an email via Questbusiness but the email will now consist of a link to the NWAQ document.

One can also access NWAQ by going directly to **Key Links** on the Quest website. Under **Key Links**, you can access NWAQ by clicking on "**Latest NWAQ.**"

Once NWAQ is published, minor changes can be emailed to Michael Russo for updating. Major changes (e.g., a room

correction or a notification of a class change to Zoom only) should also be sent to Michael Russo, but lead coordinators may also want to email all Quest members about such major changes.

An email will be sent to lead coordinators to inform them about these changes.

Summer Encores Program for 2022

Mary Ann Donnelly reported that Art Spar is heading up the summer schedule. He is looking to recruit additional help to work on this program.

Suggestions to the 2022 summer program should be emailed to QuestEncores2022@googlegroups.com.

25th Anniversary Luncheon Update

Michael Wellner said the subcommittee will visit the Harmonie Club and meet with the banquet manager this week. There will be music — Arlene Hajinlian has offered to play the piano. The gift tote bags will be delivered directly to the Harmonie Club within one week of the event. There will be an opportunity to plan seating arrangements for those who would like to do so.

Tech Team Committee Report

Wayne Cotter noted there were some audio problems (especially for the Zoom audience) during the first few weeks. Several committee members tested this. There is a Yeti mic in the auditorium that provides sound for those watching at home. Microphones by a side monitor provide the sound for those at

home or in Room 15-17. Wayne suggested that an email go out to members offering them suggestions on how to improve their listening experience. The committee is looking to hire additional help setting up hybrid sessions and is considering hiring a CWE student for this purpose.

Good news! As far as we know, Quest is the only lifelong learning program currently offering such an extensive hybrid classroom experience. Most lifelong learning centers in the Metropolitan area are continuing to hold all their classes via Zoom.

Membership Report

Nan McNamara and Donna Ramer discussed the number of members who have renewed and sent in a check.

- There are 236 fully paid members
- There are a few inquiries from prospective new members

Leave of Absence Members

- 13 members are currently on a leave of absence

Quest had 41 Zoom-members. About 7 Zoom-only members transitioned to new members.

Attendance at 25 Broadway

Quest is taking attendance at each class so that CWE has a record in case there is a need for contact tracing. Steve Allen prepared a summary of attendance during the first two weeks. There are

about 60 or 70 attendees per day (this includes both in-person and Zoom attendees).

Generally speaking, the meeting/discussion classes have more live attendees than Zoom attendees, while the auditorium classes tend to have more Zoom attendees than live attendees.

Council discussed which classes are considered to be meeting/discussion classes and if they are being recorded. In most cases, the lecture classes conducted in the auditorium are being recorded, while the meeting/discussion classes in Meeting Room 15-17 are not. This essentially mirrors Quest's recording policy in the 2020 – 21 academic year when there were no classes held at 25 Broadway.

Bob Gottfried noted it is up to the lead coordinator whether or not the class is recorded.

Availability of Electronic Archives Information

Council decided to review this at our next meeting.

Treasurer's Report for September 2021

Quest Treasurer Stephanie Butler said there are no significant changes.

Stephanie Butler, Bob Gottfried and Ruth Ward met with CWE Dean Mercado and Davi Saroop to discuss our rent and it was agreed that Quest would pay \$40,000 in rent for the 2021 – 2022 year. This reflected a savings of \$10,000 (originally

budgeted). A \$5,000 scholarship from the KenLeedom/
PeterCott bequest and a \$5,000 Quest scholarship will be
contributed later in the year. A \$3,500 contribution will also be
made to the CWE Film Festival.

The Council's next scheduled meeting is Monday, November 1,
at 2:45 pm. We will meet at 25 Broadway.

The meeting was adjourned by Ruth Ward at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Levin

Secretary