

## **QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **Monday, September 12, 2022**

**Council Members present:** Wayne Cotter, Mary Ann Donnelly, Peter Fleischman, Arlynn Greenbaum, Karen Levin, Nan McNamara, Donna Ramer, Larry Shapiro, Ruth Ward, Michael Wellner and Judy Winn.

**Council Members absent:** None

*Council held its monthly meeting in person. The meeting was called to order by Quest President Ruth Ward at 2:45 pm.*

#### **Quest Committees for 2022 – 2023 Listed on the Website**

President Ruth Ward reported that all committees for the 2022 – 2023 year are now listed on the website. It's important to note we have a much higher participation of Quest members serving on committees than in prior years. This is a good way to help our community feel more connected.

#### **COVID Protocols for the Fall Semester**

Quest will operate under the same protocols as the previous semester. Masks are encouraged but not required at Quest.

#### **Membership Update**

Membership Chair Donna Ramer reported that we are approaching 200 members. All new members and most current offered feedback saying they want to be on site at 25 Broadway.

#### **Increasing Membership**

Quest bookmarks were created and distributed to friends of members, libraries and other places to attract new members. QReview and the Quest catalog will be distributed to libraries and other organizations.

The Membership Committee will continue to meet with the Chairs of the Marketing and Communications Committee (M & C Committee) and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEI) as part of a cross-functional team. There are several initiatives in the works

Donna has tried several times to contact the CCNY Alumni President David Covington regarding an ad that was written for the CCNY/CWE alumni publications to promote an Open House. To date, he has not responded.

Peter Fleischman recommended we contact other alumni associations. Donna confirmed that the Membership Committee will be compiling a list of college alumni associations in the Tri-State area.

### **Spring Calendar for 2023**

Ruth discussed the following schedule for the spring 2023 semester:

- Monday, February 6 – the first day of the 2023 spring semester
- Monday, February 20 – President’s Day holiday
- Monday, April 3 through Thursday, April 6 – spring break
- Thursday, May 18 – last day of the spring semester

Ruth made a motion to accept the spring schedule and Michael Wellner seconded the motion. Council unanimously adopted this schedule.

### **Tech Schedule for Room 27**

Vice President Wayne Cotter reported that Room 27 has a new monitor that will soon be operational. Room 52-53 is also available for classes. Room 27, 52-53 and 15-17 can be used to hold meetings until 4:00 pm on class days.

## **Guest Speaker Dates for Spring 2023**

- February 15, 2023
- March 1, 2023
- March 15, 2023
- March 29, 2023
- May 3, 2023

The fall general meeting date will be November 9, 2022. The spring general meeting date can be April 19, 2023. Ruth will confirm this date.

## **Noontime Zoom-Only Meetings for Zoom Participants**

These meetings will be held on Thursdays during B-week. The Lead Coordinator is Nina Dioletis and the Co-Coordinators are Sandy Frank and Glenn Johnston. These meetings are open to all members.

## **Walking Groups**

These will be held on Thursdays during B-week at 2:45 pm and start on September 15. The coordinators are Marian Friedmann, Andrea Irvine and Laura Lopez.

## **Long-Term Planning Subcommittee Update**

Council discussed whether or not Quest should have a Long-Term Planning Committee instead of a subcommittee. Council agreed that we should have a Long-Term Planning Committee to review issues that come up. These include Membership, COVID, the continuation of a Hybrid approach and Emergency Planning guidelines.

Wayne Cotter recommended that Council review the prior report that was issued five years ago. This report was distributed to Council members and will be resent.

## **Treasurer's Report for August 2022**

Quest Treasurer Peter Fleischman, presented his Treasurer's Report. Peter is working with Steve Allen to gather data so our accountants can prepare our tax return. Since CWE is holding some Quest funds from last year, Ruth, Peter and Wayne will meet with Dean Mercado to discuss this.

Peter's report noted that the transition of the Chase banking accounts to him is not completed. He will continue to work with Chase to address the signature authority issues.

There are some problems with CWE processing our tuition checks. Quest members send their checks to Membership Chair Donna Ramer who transfers them to CUNY for deposit. Unfortunately, there have been delays with CUNY depositing our checks promptly. Peter has some suggestions to correct this process. Ruth and Peter will meet with Davi Saroop to discuss alternatives to improve this process.

The Council's next scheduled meeting is Thursday, October 6, at 2:45 pm. It will be a hybrid meeting.

*The meeting was adjourned by Ruth Ward at 3:45 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Levin

Secretary