

QUEST COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: March 2, 2026

Council held its monthly meeting at 25 Broadway in Room 7-24. President Donna Ramer called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

Council Members Present: Bob Belfort (via Zoom), Victor Brener, Karen Cullen, Peter Fleischman, Bob Gottfried (via Zoom), Vince Grosso, Stu Parker, Donna Ramer, Ruth Ward, Tamara Weinberg.

Council Members Absent: Judy Winn

I. Treasurer's Report: Peter Fleischman

- Peter distributed and reviewed his 3-2-26 Treasurer's Report.
- Quest has purchased a new laptop for use by the Treasurer that will be devoted to Treasury-related documents, including emails, to facilitate the maintenance of such documents and the transition of the Treasury function to new Treasurers. In connection with this effort, the Treasurer will soon have a dedicated Gmail address.
- Quest has collected \$145,445 in membership fees for this year's tuition, exceeding budgeted revenue from membership fees by \$1,895. The balance sheet is in good shape. Given actual expenses so far, Peter is optimistic that we will reduce the deficit predicted by the budget. He noted that our rent was less than budgeted; Donna added that Quest's budgeted contribution to the CWE film festival has been postponed to next year.

II. Technology: Victor Brener

- Last week CWE installed a new screen and projector in classroom 15-17. (CWE installed a new screen and projector in classroom 27 two months ago.)
- Tamara said that some classes had to be moved from the Auditorium last week because the Internet connection on the podium computer became temporarily disabled, possibly from a software download. Donna and the Tech Committee reminded everyone that to avoid tech issues with presentations, the only people authorized to upload any software on the podium computers are Robert Hernandez and Felix Pina.

III. Membership: Ruth Ward

- Quest has 277 active members; eight prospective members are in the pipeline.
- Ruth will add anyone interested in the Summer Encores program or the fall semester to Quest's Subscribers list.

- Donna reminded Council that Quest members voted in favor of raising the membership cap to 285 by a vote of 133 in favor to 40 against.
- The Committee will coordinate with the Marketing Committee on sending an invitation regarding the free Summer Encores program.

IV. Nominating and Elections Committee (NEC): Tamara Weinberg

- The NEC has scheduled the dates for the upcoming Candidate forums and is in the process of collecting the candidates' bios. Tamara has talked with QNews which will include the candidates' bios in its next edition.
- To date, the NEC has not received a petition with the required number of signatures from any member to be added to the slate of candidates.

V. Curriculum: Tamara Weinberg

- The Curriculum Committee suggests adding additional courses to increase class choices and alleviate the crowding in certain literature/discussion classes. Bob Gottfried said he thought adding more classes was a good idea but that the Scheduling Committee should be consulted on where and when to add the classes. Bob Belfort suggested adding classes in slots where attendance is heavier. Victor pointed out that it might be difficult to reduce attendance in discussion classes, and Donna confirmed that Quest does not have limits on class sizes or require class registration.

VI. New Business:

Council Votes:

- Tamara said that a few members had asked if Council members' individual votes on motions could be recorded in the minutes. Karen said she would research this issue by looking into how similar organizations handle this issue and report back to Council at its April meeting.

The next Council meeting will be at 25 Broadway on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 2:45 p.m.

Donna adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Cullen, Secretary

Documents distributed at meeting: Agenda, 3-2-26 Treasurer's Report.