

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Delaware  
Kent/Sussex Counties Council Minutes  
In-person Trinity Education Building and  
Via Zoom/Hybrid  
September 19, 2022

In attendance: In-Person: Paul Collins, Executive Secretary. Staff: Sally Cole, OLLI Kent/Sussex Program Manager. Stephen Forestieri, Program Coordinator. Voting Committee Members: Paul Collins, Development Chair; Joan Mansperger, Academic Affairs Co-Chair; Lee Stanford, Membership Co-Chair. Non-Voting Members: Katherine Henn, Recording Secretary; Lynn Kroesen, Catalog/Communications Co-Chair; Beth Jelich, Travel Co-Chair; Rosemary Engle, Membership Co-Chair.

Via Zoom: Connie Benko, Chair. Staff: George Irvine, University of Delaware Associate Vice Provost. Voting Committee Members: Karen Schaub, Finance Chair; Nick Simmonds, Strategic Planning Chair; Denise Kaercher, Community Relations Co-Chair. Deb Roberts, Academic Affairs Co-Chair; Marge Felty, Social Co-Chair; and Trudie Thompson, Social Co-Chair. Non-Voting Members: Joan Sciorra, Travel Co-Chair; Wendy Leicht, Catalog/Communications Co-Chair; Peter Harrigan, Marketing and Communications Chair; Madeleine Nichols, Library Chair; Carol West, Community Relations Co-Chair. Quorum was present.

Connie Benko called the meeting to order at 11:04 a. m.

The Agenda was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes for the OLLI Kent/Sussex Council Meeting of August 5, 2022 were approved.

Motion to Approve: Denise Kaercher  
Second: Joan Mansperger  
Passed Unanimously

Staff Reports: George Irvine updated the Council on the University of Delaware's programs for non-traditional students which include OLLI members. He indicated that the possibility of finding a future home for our Sussex County OLLI location with the Freeman Companies' Cool Spring Development located on Cool Spring Road off the Lewes Georgetown Highway is under consideration. The modified lease with the Trinity facility has been finalized and signed.

Sally Cole : Steve Forestieri's official start date as our full time Program Coordinator was August 8. Assistance is sought for volunteers to cover front office phones and assisting members on the week of September 26 as both Lisa and Trish will be on vacation. The Lease for the Trinity facility was finalized. Negotiations for a new cleaning service, Pieces of a Dream, are underway. Plans are in process to contract a hardscape/landscape feature at the front entrance. As we have received permission to post an OLLI sign at the

intersection of New Road and Old Orchard a new sign will be ordered. The lease was renegotiated for the Wyoming Church facility for 9 classrooms on two days a week reducing the amount of the lease to \$7500 for the fiscal year. The lease will be renegotiated in May of 2023. Fall Session classes began on September 6<sup>th</sup> with 92 courses offered. Lewes offers 48 Courses (16 Hybrid); Dover: 19 courses (5 Hybrid); Ocean View: 5 Courses (2 Hybrid) and Online 14 Courses. Five new instructors are on board for the Fall Semester. Registration will be reopened before the beginning the second five weeks of the term. Membership for fall 2022 is 2,023 statewide with approximately 21% from Kent/Sussex and 20 members from other states. The flat fee rate structure simplified the registration process for members and for staff, greatly reducing the number of transactions and refunds. Some members returned following the pandemic and many signed up for more classes, benefitting instructors with more members in their classrooms. Memberships were renewed with the Central Delaware, Lewes, Milford, Rehoboth and South Coastal Chambers of Commerce. Trish Dennison, Denise Kaercher, and Trudie Thompson were thanked for their outreach with the September 17<sup>th</sup> Milford Riverwalk Freedom Festival where 20 participated. Carol West was thanked for the October 2 Coast Day arrangements. The Delaware Resorts 55+ Expo will be held at Cape Henlopen High School on November 5. On December 1, Lewes Hospitality Day, OLLI will be a "Special Community Guest" at the Lewes Friends English Country Dancers at St. Peter's. On April 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a 55+ Expo in Dover at Bally's.

Questions from Council members on the Manager's Report: Denise Kaercher asked how many Scholarships were granted for the term and could the Special Speakers' program be given one hour instead of the 45 minutes. Sally indicated there was one scholarship for Kent/Sussex. She noted that the lunch break had changed to start at 12:45 pm instead of 12:30. Rosemary Engle suggested we consider revising the fee structure for couples who currently are each required to pay the full membership fee or \$500 for the couple. Sally indicated it would be reviewed.

Steve Forestieri: 89 course proposals for 2023 have been received to date. Proposals will be accepted until September 27. Total fall enrollment statewide to date is 2025 members, (fall enrollment will reopen for the second five week period).

### Committee Reports

Committee Reports were filed in advance of the Meeting. No Committee presented motions requiring Council approval. The On-line Committee is focusing on distance viewing; Social: a Happy Hour was held at the Green Turtle on September 15. Marketing Committee: A joint virtual bingo game with the AARP will be held on October 26 from 7 to 8 pm. An invitation to attend will be sent to Council members. Advanced registration is required. A Mailing list has been collected for 1000 Kent/Sussex residents 50 + years old and residing in Delaware for 2 years. Finance: The July 31 and August 31 financial reports are on file.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Fall 2022 Revenue Split: Flat Fee. An algorithm was developed by Wilmington to discount Scholarships, Credit Card fees, and Expenses and subdivide the remaining between membership participation and instructor participation. Wilmington plans to present their plan today. We have some details to still work out and we are not required to do this the same way that Wilmington does.

Fall Picnic: Scheduled for October 12 at 11:30 to 2:30 at the American Legion off of Savannah Road, Lewes. \$10 Registration fee. Council wide event with members asked to contribute salads, side dishes, and desserts.

Special Events Friday: Offered online on Fridays at 12:30 to OLLI Statewide. Council members were encouraged to attend the upcoming event being held on September 23 that will feature a history and overview of the UD OLLI programs.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 17 at 8 a.m.

Motion to adjourn: Joan Mansperger

Second: Deb Roberts

Passed Unanimously

Adjournment: 1 p. m.

Katherine Henn  
Recording Secretary