OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF MILWAUKEE-MILWAUKEE
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 6th, 2012

In Attendance: Phil Rozga, David Kelling, Mimi Notestein, Linda Nolan, John Link, Beth Waschow, Diana Hankes, Ruth Kurensky, Chris O’Brien, Mike Roller, Kathy Brehmer, Mary E. Kelly, Kim Beck, Jenny Neale

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

1. MINUTES- Minutes were filed as amended
2. TREASURER’S REPORT- Report was distributed and reviewed
3. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a. Special Interest Group report- Beverly DeWeese, Gold Star Mystery S.I.G was unable to attend, but submitted the following information:
      . Group meets from September through June on the first and third Thursdays of the month
      . 20 are signed up; 15 to 20 generally attend
      . Two books are read and discussed each month
      . Selected books are generally award winners or have been well reviewed
      . Discussions are quite lively, since most attendees are avid readers who enjoy a variety of books in addition to mysteries
      . Contemporary social problems, as well as the factors that drive people to murder, the impact on the characters, and whether or not justice is achieved are all considered in the discussion
      . Beverly loves the interaction with class members, and is grateful to OSHER for the opportunity to teach “such an enthusiastic group”
   b. MEMBERSHIP
      . Current membership is 928
      . New member meeting had 5 attendees out of the 44 invited
      . Some suggestions from new members included Lake Park lawn bowling, a Geneology class, and an Astronomy class
      . Some committee members donate get well cards; Kim will provide stamps
      . The next prospective member meeting will be in May
      . Ted Tousman came to the last committee meeting. He has not had an opportunity to give a presentation as yet; Phil encouraged Board members to send Ted ideas for appropriate venues
      . The lack of handicapped parking at Hefter was brought up. Kim will follow up with the University, and also refer this concern to the Strategic Plan committee
   c. LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT
The long awaited signed SCE/OSHER agreement has been accomplished. (kudos to Linda Nolan for her tenacity). Phil asked that all Board members get a copy.

The Standing Rules Guidelines draft has been finalized.

Plans and timelines for the Strategic Planning committee are evolving.

Much time was spent at the L and D committee level discussing how best to program for OSHER’s increasing membership.

d. PROGRAM

Program catalog for the spring semester is complete and should be available the first week in January.

It was suggested that the program catalog be mailed first class; Ruth stated that the second week in January would be ideal.

The tentative date for in-person registration is Thursday, January 17th, 2013.

Ongoing problems with Potpourri were discussed...some people show up without having registered, and substantial numbers of actual registrants are no shows. An analysis of data showed that on average 20% of registrants do not come. Kim believes that this problem of oversubscribing will be resolved next semester due to relocation. It also will be addressed by the Strategic Planning committee.

e. SOCIAL

The Winter Gala will be held on Thursday, December 13th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Hefter Center. The event is free, and members are allowed to bring a guest. The food will be catered.

The committee has been researching various venues for our March event. The new Urban Ecology Center-South is too small, and the Urban Ecology Center near Riverside Park is too expensive to rent. Returning to the South Shore Park pavilion or the Shorewood Village Hall are possibilities.

f. NEWSLETTER

Future newsletters will be handled on the University server.

Next issue is January/February; deadline for submissions is December 3rd.

In addition to a member profile it will include John Link’s book report, and possibly a report on the MMSD field trip and the Italian SIG’s cookbook project.

g. PUBLIC RELATIONS

No activity to report.

4. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The W.A.L.L. Leadership Conference held in Oshkosh was interesting and enlightening.

There were approximately 45 attendees.

Milwaukee was the only OSHER attending.

We will be hosting the conference in 2014.

A brief discussion followed, including where will it be held and how will it be funded. Kim indicated that UWM would be prepared to handle this. A sub-committee will be formed, and Phil will request an outline from the Oshkosh planners to assist us going forward.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
a. The next Strategic Planning session is scheduled for Tuesday, November 27th at 9:00 a.m. David Jorgensen, previous chair of the L and D committee has been added. The goal is to accomplish the work in six to eight weeks.
b. OSHER will co-sponsor the Dean’s Lecture series, with a $2500 commitment.
c. The Italian SIG has decided to self-publish the cookbook, at a price significantly lower than the University estimate. Kim will work with the group to establish realistic quantities to print, not to exceed 20 more than the actual number of cookbooks ordered.
d. Winter Catalog Update
   . Kim complimented the Program committee for the excellent work they do
   . Stated that we face significant challenges as we strive to meet the programming needs for 1,000 plus members
   . Additional courses and expanded course locations will be necessary
   . We are not currently structured to handle these challenges effectively
e. OSHER NATIONAL CONFERENCE
   . Phil and Kim plan to attend
   . 120 institutions around the country are invited; all expenses except transportation are covered
   . Phil and Kim will be focusing on what we can learn from others about how best to handle the growth we are experiencing, and their recommended benchmarks based on size; also of interest is what other groups are doing relative to paying presenters
f. Parking on Marietta- discussions are on-going

6. OLD BUSINESS
   Phil proposed that we consider a monthly Lecture and Lunch series, which would promote OSHER and offer an additional educational experience. There is space on the second floor of the downtown campus which could be used for such a purpose.

7. NEW BUSINESS
a. TRAVEL  Kim and various Board members offered ideas for potential international travel destinations, including the Amazon; Machu Picchu; a river cruise through Germany; Quebec and Montreal; Oxford (including a course), and Vietnam and Cambodia.
   . Kim raised the possibility of outsourcing management of these kinds of trips in the future
b. MEMBER DIRECTORY/MEMBER PRIVACY  Kim will research how other organizations handle protecting member privacy, including giving members an opportunity to “opt out”, rather than having their information listed in the directory
c. OSHER AND SOCIAL MEDIA  A Facebook site now exists. Kim would like input from members who might want to be involved

8 ADJOURNMENT  Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm. The next Board meeting will be Monday, December 3rd at 1:00 pm. (subsequently changed to Monday December 10th at 1:00 pm)

Respectfully submitted  Mary E. Kelly, Recording Secretary