Meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

1. MINUTES- Filed as submitted
2. TREASURER’S REPORT- The current financial report was distributed
3. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a. Special Interest Group-Writing Group. Nancy Martin reported that:
      . There are 15 registered; 4 to 5 members attend regularly
      . Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, August through June
      . Members bring in short pieces, memoirs, “slice of life” items
      . Participants critique each other’s submissions
      . Cited an example of one person who wrote about a trip she had taken with her husband; another member submitted several poems focusing on the experience of Auschwitz
      . Diana suggested that some of the submissions could be published in the Newsletter
      . Nancy also works with writers in Senior Residences, where the average age of the storyteller is 85
      . Nancy is also a published author herself
   b. MEMBERSHIP
      No formal report; current membership is approximately 950
   c. LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT
      . The work of the Strategic Planning Committee is progressing
      . A major focus of the discussion is how to assist and support the Program committee as our membership grows and programming needs expand.
   d. PROGRAM
      . The Spring catalog will be mailed out later than planned
      . In-person registration and reception will be held January 29th from 2:30 to 4:00 pm at the downtown campus
      . Classes begin on January 31st
      . Entire class schedule in currently available on line
      . Ongoing issue with members signing up for classes and then not attending
      . Regarding refunds, Kim indicated that the cost of processing refunds is much higher than the fee itself
e. SOCIAL
   . The Holiday Gala, scheduled for December 13th at Hefter will be catered, and is expected to attract approximately 150 attendees.
   . The committee is discussing a Spring social event in early March
f. NEWSLETTER
   . Diana reported that more submissions are needed; non-committee members are encouraged to contribute as well
   . The member profile for the January/February issue is MEK
   . The deadline for the March/April newsletter is Monday, February 4th; it is likely that it will have a St Patrick’s Day theme
   . A question was raised about the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. Kim will research this and get back to the Board
g. PUBLIC RELATIONS
   Committee has not met; Terry Rozga has joined the committee

4. PRESIDENT’S REPORT
   . Phil reported on the National OSHER Conference in Colorado
   . 220 were registered for the Conference; all are connected with a University
   . Great opportunity to learn about what other cities/states are doing
   . There are 115 OSHER Institutes with a total membership of 112,000
   . Membership ranges from 200 to 3,000
   . One of the larger affiliates has 49 S.I.G.s and 5 book clubs
   . Many have a wide range of cultural activities, including theatre and symphony concerts; in one city, there is an Opera S.I.G. with 100 members!
   . Other “extra curricular” activities include hiking groups and crafts

A question was raised about how we can access resources to assist us, in particular our Public Relations committee. Kim will provide contact information to Mike Roller

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT
   a. Kim received a very positive report from the Strategic Planning Committee about its progress
   b. COOKBOOK The Italian S.I.G.’s cookbook will be available for sale at the Holiday Gala for $15.00. UWM will not be involved in collecting the money
   c. CATALOG The Winter/Spring catalog will be late, and Kim and staff are working to identify why this happened, and how to prevent a recurrence. A communication will be sent to all OSHER members before the first of the year, giving an overview of course offerings, and encouraging on-line registration as well as registration by telephone.
   d. SUMMER Discussions are focusing on how many courses can be reasonably offered this summer. Historically, staff has handled much of the summer program planning; the program committee will be handling it all going forward.
   . The program committee is overwhelmed as it is, and needs to be restructured in order to accomplish the additional work load
   . The total registration last summer was approximately 800
. The mix of classes and Go-Explores worked out well.

e. PARKING After much discussion with the University and district alderman Nik Kovac, a compromise has been reached regarding OSHER members who have handicap stickers/placard signs in their vehicles. Parking will be permitted on the two blocks of Marietta closest to Hefter Center, between Kenwood and Hartford. The alderman’s office staff will intervene should a parking ticket occur.

f. An addendum to Phil’s report re: the National Conference:

   A competition has been established which gives graduate students an opportunity to compete for a grant/scholarship. The project involves creating a class for OSHER, and then teaching the course the student creates. Kim will research further and bring what he learns back to the Board.

6. OLD BUSINESS

   The trip to NYC was attended by 60 people. The itinerary included 4 plays and a guided tour of the Ground Zero memorial and museum. The tours were led by knowledgeable guides who had personal experiences regarding 9/11.

7. NEW BUSINESS

   The W.A.L.L. Midwest conference is scheduled for April. The cost is $365.

8. ADJOURNMENT

   Meeting was adjourned at 2:02 pm. The next meeting will be Monday January 7th at 1:00 pm. (subsequently changed to noon)

   Respectfully submitted,

   Mary E. Kelly. Secretary