

**LANGARA COLLEGE RETIREES
STEERING COMMITTEE
FINAL MINUTES**

January 27, 2021
Via Zoom, 10:00 – 11:00 am
REVISED*

Attendees:

Roy Sinn – Chair	Martin Gerson	Shannon Eeckhout (minutes)
Dave Lidstone	Diane Bradley – regrets	Moira Gookstetter
Gail Bremer	Michael Sharzer	Ken Jillings
Jane Mason – regrets	Susan Weber	Heidy Rahnumah
Brian McGibney		

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am

1. Welcome Heidy

- The committee welcomed Heidy Rahnumah, Development Officer, Langara Foundation

2. Approval of agenda

- The agenda was approved as circulated. The minutes from May 2020 have been circulated.

3. 2021 Annual Membership Meeting (AMM)

- It was agreed to deferred the AMM to later in the year; will revisit this topic in a few months.
 - a. Date (2019 was Feb 26 and 2020 was Jan 22)
 - b. Elections
 - c. Activities (door prizes, readings, music, Langara trivia, donations)
- Should we let a social event drive the date of the AMM, or vice versa.
- If we do not have a gathering, until fall, we could hold the AMM (as per the terms of reference). Or, do a gathering on Zoom although the turn out would be small if the only item was an AMM.
- Gala could be held virtually, smaller. Dave to check in with past performers and their comfort level performing in a virtual environment.
- Brian added that an other option for gala would be for participants to record their performances ahead of time. Also recommends the events on two separate dates.
- Martin reported that the LFA virtual Christmas party was well attended. Was a well organized event; had the LFA board members hosted breakout rooms and people could move around within the virtual breakout rooms.
- A smaller group could work together to focus on this event. Susan has volunteered and has some experience with virtual events. Dave will participate as well. Shannon will circulate email addresses.

4. Website proposal

- Roy finished a draft proposal, Martin has it for review over the next few days.

- The proposal outlines the main requirements: communication forum, membership management system, newsletter, event management system – all to be managed by the Retirees group.
- We employ an independent service provider which would allow us to no longer rely on Langara IT.
- Start-up cost would be \$300; Roy has created a domain; ongoing annual costs \$200 or less.
- Looking for funding by March 1 for go live in April.
- Has looked at 3 companies: Island Hosting, HostPapa, and one other. Susan may have another hosting company to look into out of Montreal.
- Suggests using Wordpress for content management.
- Moira added that C&M could prepare a newsletter for the Retirees
- Would still want to maintain a presence on the People and Culture webpage on Langara.ca
- Martin asked about whether the College has policies that would preclude this external website
- The proposal would need approval from senior leadership and C&M
- It is unclear what services the College will be able to continue in support of the Retirees in the future due to security restrictions or other constraints.

5. Engagement Activities

- Susan, Brian to meet to consider activities and report at the next meeting; ****Dave will consider the gala***
- Roy thought of online workshops; Gail had thoughts about future retirees on transitioning to retirement; Heidi proposed a newsletter, similar content to Langara Post, some feature stories – what are retirees up to; themes, there is still a lot happening at the College and with Foundation including student initiatives: new laptop lending program, holiday hamper, back to school hamper, community cupboard; newsletter could include stories on how students are impacted
- Susan added that having ****retired from the College***, doesn't check website so a newsletter would be a good way to hear what's going on
- Roy acknowledged that we would need to be pushed to retirees (direct email)
- Heidi added that Studio 58 is still active; could include a feature about how they've gone on-line
- Michael updated on the mentoring research he's done; has identified that there are 113 colleges and institutes places in Canada and has identified some contacts
- Roy clarified that some Langara Post information could be included in the newsletter plus retirees specific info
- Heidi also added that engagement opportunities include mentorship and volunteering – could add to newsletter; many programs required it; foundation has events that volunteers would be welcome

6. Affiliate Memberships

(COSCO, CURAC, Association of BC College Pension Plan Retirees)

- Workshops come out of COSCO
- Memberships coming up for renewal, each is under \$100
- No objections to renewals; Roy to forward renewals to Shannon to process payments

7. Langara Retirees Facebook Administration (backup)

- Mike Holmwood still doing some administration work
- Diane has offered to help.
- Susan has offered to be this backup administrator.

Other Items:

- Heidi asked about opportunities on how to engage other retirees to join either the committee or the general group.
 - Roy explained that we have tried in different ways over the years; always looking for CUPE retirees to join. Steering Committee can have up to 10 college retirees as per terms of reference.
 - The initial draw was a social aspect but also includes workshops, discounts for CS course, info about insurance plans and options.
 - Dave added that we have grown in our ability to pass on information about benefits of the group.
 - Gail added that it was about staying engaged with each other.
 - Roy would like to reach out to CUPE, LFA and LCAA about the Retirees group as we have lost the ability to be at events to reach new retirees.
 - Many retirees have actually left the college prior to their actual retirement date.
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- Next meeting: end of February – Shannon to send a poll
 - The meeting concluded at 10:58 am.