

# LANGARA COLLEGE ASSOCIATION OF RETIREES (LCAR)

## MEETING MINUTES

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Friday, May 5, 2023

10:00 – 11:00 am, via Zoom

### **Attendees:**

Diane Bradley - Chair

Dave Lidstone

Roy Sinn

Brian McGibney

Martin Gerson

Gail Bremer - regrets

Bruce Kennedy

Susan Weber - regrets

Shannon Eeckhout (minutes)

Patricia Cia

Simone Le Blanc

### **1. Any additions to the agenda**

None.

### **2. Approval of the agenda**

Approved as circulated.

### **3. Approval of the minutes from the March 24, 2023 meeting**

Approved. A finalized version will be circulated.

### **4. Business**

#### **4.1 Welcome to Simone Le Blanc and update on board membership**

- Diane welcomed Simone Le Blanc, Executive Director Foundation and Director of College Advancement to the committee.
- Simone introduced herself and explained that she hopes to meet in person at some point; has met Dave and learned about the Gala and its history; hope to catch it in the future; thanks for inviting.
- She started in her role at Langara last September and is learning the Langara way and meeting stakeholder groups; has been in fund development for 25 years, much in post-secondary including Kwantlen, UBC Sauder, and SFU; has a great team at Langara with current priorities: database, policies, building a solid foundation, engaging donors.
- They are following best practices; reaching out to stakeholder groups and meeting groups across campus; building partnerships including the Retiree group; happy to help facilitate and steward that; recognize that LCAR has a connection and helps raise funds for the College.
- Simone will be the contact for LCAR now; working on updating team portfolios; not only Advancement but Alumni – wants to spend some time getting to know the Alumni programs – really important stakeholder group; brand ambassadors in community.

- Diane advised that LCAR to meet monthly, especially when we have upcoming events.
- Dave mentioned that when Moira and Yvonne were attended the meetings, the things we could do to support the College were more evident.

#### 4.2 Update from the Gala – Dave

- Dave reported that he feels it was very grand a great success; so important to maintain those connections and presenting music with the grand band; very rewarding personally.
- Raised \$900 ticket revenue and donations for Studio 58 scholarship; will be matched by Langara; additional \$74 raised from the concession for Studio 58; had some comments about how it would be nice to have wine like in the past.
- Dave has sent thank you messages to everyone who was involved.
- Will shout out to Veda, to congratulate her for winning the door prize (and bringing 3 guests).
- Had reached out the community beyond retirees, to the current staff; received some comments that the Post article was read; only 3 current staff attended (of 12 reservations); a ticket pre-payment program would help with this.
- Used electronic posting and listserv; LFA and CUPE listserv, IG; but the best is word of mouth.
- In-person recruitment should happen earlier and having handouts would be helpful.
- A few surprises: communication with AV staff – confirmed they would be there at 2:00 with the required equipment but it was a scramble and some equipment is provided by facilities.
- Studio 58 box office is governed by security not Studio 58; another layer of communication that he was unaware of.
- A front of house person would have to stay in that area during the show.
- As the retirees are visitors to campus now, wondering how their visitor status could be improved to give easier access to facilities or photocopying. It would be welcomed.
- If repeating the Gala, scheduling is the purview of Studio 58.
- Martin added that it was terrific, in large part, because of all the work that Dave put in.
- Brian thought the performances were first rate; re: retiree status – Studio 58 welcomed the group into the ‘family’; College is now more bureaucratic and more formal; sees this year as a building year; Dave has done a good job of outlining the snags; bit of hair pulling; Gala band, Bruce and Carol were fantastic; agrees the best marketing is word of mouth.
- Roy wondered about whether there are photos to share, or if someone can write something up.
- Cathy will write a review for the newsletter.
- Bruce noted that the Studio 58 leadership made their presence known; Kevin mentioned to Courtney that maybe they should take a bigger part next time; student was helpful with lighting, maybe the production program could assign a student to take this on; we could approach them in advance for this. Should start talking about it now.
- Simone meeting with Courtney today and will mention next years event.

#### 4.3 Proposed summer/fall activities – All

- AGM – Dave suggests just one act; two might be too many; people wanted more time to chat.
- Martin added that the AGM is not the draw, it is important to have time to chat.
- Diane suggested that we keep two entertainments, including one shorter one, similar to Cathy's story from the Gala.
- Brian suggested an overall 2 hours; 30 min or less for AGM, 40 min of entertainment, remainder for socializing.
- **AGM September 21** – Dave will put in the event request form.
- Dave will defer to Gail for catering.
- Roy has been in touch with the Golf Course and/or Dublin Crossing for social events; just need dates and he can check on availability starting at the end of May.

#### 4.4 Attendance at President's Retirees' luncheon or LFA event for retirees – Diane

- Diane has been invited to luncheon and will be giving a short speech; Dave has delivered newsletters; cards to advertise LCAR have been printed.
- Unsure if the LFA is hosting a retiree event; will contact Amy at the LFA about this and will ask who can attend their event.

#### 4.5 Updates from the newsletter committee – Martin, Dave, Patricia

- Martin updated that there have been changes on the team: Patricia is now part of the editorial team along with Judy and Keith.
- Met a few weeks ago and decided to target June for next issue; already have a number of things lined up; might be a shorter issue; then an October issue – post AGM to be able to include a report about it.
- Dave added that Shannon offered to mail out copies of the newsletter so he will advertise this service to members.

#### 4.6 LCAR website Maintenance – Patricia, Roy

- Roy told us that Patricia has joined him to help update the website; thanks to her for her help.
- Updates or suggestions for the website – please pass them on to either of them.
- Email and listserv: the latter has been an issue with Shaw email addresses that filters then stops sending them; not a reliable system any longer
- Proposing email relay and new listserv; Roy has looked at a number of services; some complicated and forced to use a composer vs a listserv; wants to use the listserv model; new software is integrated with website; the software is \$49 US – one year support and update; may need it next year as well as Wordpress updates once and a while.
- Roy proposes this solution, Martin seconds, all are in favour.
- Roy confirmed that any member can post to the listserv and that there is a moderator feature; Roy and Patricia will fill this role initially.
- Diane suggested that minor changes and updates to the website do not need committee approval.

#### 4.7 Liaison with CPPR – Diane

- An update was circulated to the committee last night.
- Dave suggested that our newsletter could point people to the Primetime newsletter.

#### 4.8 Liaison with CURAC – Dave

- No report at this time.

#### 4.9 Liaison with \**COSCO* – All

- Diane asked if anyone is interested in taking this on.
- Roy receives their emails, maybe three each month; has not attended the monthly meeting for a while; the email may be all that is needed, attending meeting is not necessary although they did have good guest speakers.
- Patricia suggests circulating information to the group.

#### 5. **Other Business:**

- Diane advised the committee that Susan Weber has resigned from the board of LCAR.

#### 6. **Next Meeting**

- Next meeting: June 30 at 10:00 via Zoom
- The meeting concluded at 11:06 am