

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING
LIFESPING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 14, 2023**

PRESENT

Susan Puretz, President
Maureen Bybee, Secretary
Peg Nau, Treasurer
Laura Phillips, Registrar & Task Force for Online Learning
Connie Cuttle, Curriculum Committee Coordinator
Prudence Garcia Renart, Events Committee Coordinator
Susan Davis, Membership Coordinator
Susan Krompfer, Program Support Coordinator
Maureen Huben, Hospitality Coordinator
Lee Gable, Member-at-Large and Class Managers Coordinator
Diane McDowell, Member-at-Large
Anne Miller, Member-at-Large
Lydia Edelhaus, Member-at-Large
Rich Davis, AV Coordinator
Leeanne Thornton, Lifespring Member and Saugerties Town Board Liaison to the Senior Education Commission

ABSENT

Natalee Rosenstein, Vice-President
Leslie Suprenant, Member-at-Large

This regularly scheduled online Meeting of the Board was called to order by Susan P. at 9:33 a.m.

- A. Minutes:** A **MOTION** to accept the previously distributed minutes of the February 12, 2023 meeting was made by Anne with second by Lee. With no discussion, the **MOTION** was approved unanimously.

- B. President's Report:** (See attached report and questions for discussion.) Susan reported that Lifespring continues to function smoothly. She also noted that the Curriculum Committee and Publications in particular are continuing to work especially hard at the moment.

C. Old Business

1. Lifespring's Covid policy
 - i. The discussion from last month's meeting regarding updates to this policy continued and included thoughts on vaccination, social distancing, masking, and eating.
 - ii. It was noted that the WJC has removed all COVID restrictions for their space.
 - iii. The Curriculum Committee requests a decision at our April meeting for the fall semester in order to responsibly inform our fall presenters.
2. Annual Meeting Planning reported by Prudence
 - i. Prudence thanked Connie, Ann and Leslie for developing a plan for the meeting.
 - ii. Prudence described a proposed 45 minutes agenda for a hybrid presentation.
 - iii. LS has hired Karen from the WJC to provide tech support.
 - iv. Entertainment will be a 30 minute ukulele performance by Lynda Sales and her husband.
 - v. We will need volunteers to greet and check in attendees as well as a person in the room to answer questions or intervene as needed.
 - vi. We will also need a printed program, etc.
 - vii. Outside refreshments are planned for before the meeting.
 - viii. Prudence is working with Susan Greenstein on a flyer with publication for May 10 with RSVPs by May 24.
 - ix. A dress rehearsal is planned for immediately before the meeting begins.
 - x. Suggestions from the past for incorporation into this year's meeting:
 1. Invite Fred Costello to provide some brief words of greeting on behalf of the Town.
 2. Send the treasurer's report by e-mail prior to the meeting.
 3. Traditionally a memory board is displayed recognizing Lifespring members who have died. The recommendation is to send a list of those remembered rather than or in addition to the display board in the room and on Zoom
 4. According to our bylaws, the President must send a notice of the meeting at least 30 days in advance.
 5. Laura and Prudence will decide the best method for gathering RSVPs.
 6. Rich, Anne and Laura noted the possible need for a PowerPoint like presentation as part of recognizing our

volunteers, committee members, and newly elected Board Members, etc.

7. Connie and Maureen H. will send names of their committee members to Rich
8. Prudence advocated for the simplest, shortest business meeting possible.
9. Rich requested a copy of each speaker's planned remarks beforehand in order to synch his slides with their words.

3. LLI Conference: Connie reported

- i. The recent LLI meeting included updates from LLIs on their DEI committee work
- ii. Bard, Marist and Vassar are experimentally sharing webinars and a directory of presenters.
- iii. Other LLIs are also struggling with the hybrid format for classes.
- iv. LLIs continue to work toward providing courses from, for or about diverse, underrepresented, marginalized populations
- v. All LLI's reported the advantage of access to presenters from beyond the region as well as larger classes offered by online opportunities for learning.

4. Nominating Committee (See attached report) Laura explained that the committee is still in the process of accepting additional nominations from the membership. No additional nominations have been received.

D. New Business

1. Survey by the Curriculum Committee: Susan P postponed discussion of the survey until the April Board meeting
2. WJC Arrangements including hospitality
 - i. See attached questions from the report by Maureen H.
 - ii. For the Annual Meeting food will be available outside. No food will be permitted inside the building.
 - iii. Maureen H suggested simplifying any hospitality menus and finding a room other than the social hall for hospitality in the fall.
 - iv. Future recommendations for the fall are still to be decided.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Lydia and seconded by Lee. **MOTION carried** unanimously.

Maureen G. Bybee,
Secretary

NEXT MEETING:

April 11, 2023 (on zoom) at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 14, 2023

Unable to attend:

Susan Krompfer
Natalee Rosenstein

A. Minutes: March 14, 2023

B. President's Report and General Updates:

NOTE: The format will be changed for **today's** meeting and some items from the Board Reports will be covered under New Business

C. Old Business

1. Lifespring's Covid policy ((Updates?))
2. Annual Meeting Planning (Updates?)
3. DEI Conference (Updates?)
4. Nominating Committee (Updates)

D. New Business (Looking Forward)

1. Survey
2. WJC Arrangements (including Hospitality issues)
3. Other new business

NEXT MEETING:

April 11, 2023 (on zoom) at 9:30 am

**Reports for
Lifespring Board Meeting
March 14, 2023**

PRESIDENT:

I write this on Thursday, March 9, 2023 wondering if we are going to get MORE SNOW on Friday (the 10th and then again on Monday, the 13th. Knowing full well that when we meet on the 14th, those questions will have been answered (☺) .

Our last Winter Presentation on March 1st was a complete success (as expected) and Kudos keep coming in -- making me a very happy CEO (☺).

AS USUAL, I am looking forward to hearing more compliments that you Board members have heard about Lifespring at our March Board meeting!!!!!!

The CC committee is hard at work on the fall 2023 schedule and the Events Committee is working on the Annual Meeting. I've told Prudence to feel free to contact any Board member for assistance as needed (☺)

Respectfully submitted and in solidarity,

Susan Puretz, President

VICE PRESIDENT:

No report
Natalee Rosenstein

TREASURER:

See final page of these reports for the Treasurer's MONTHLY report chart.

Peg Nau

Registrar and Taskforce Coordinator

Registration Report for Lifespring Board Meeting March 14, 2023

Registration for the Winter Presentation Visions of the Shakers: An Historical and Photographic Journey was as follows:

128 total

31 were guests

97 were members

I isn't worth tracking those that asked to be added to the interest list because many check that off every time they register.

There were 4 who saw it in the Freeman and 2 in Hudson Valley one. Almost all the rest said they received our email with a smattering of oddball answers.

I expanded the Zoom license to 500 just in case although we may not break 100 actual attending. 95 participants actually attended.

Towns represented

Catskill 3

Hurley 5

Kingston 18

New Paltz 7

Saugerties 46

Woodstock 9

All the other towns had 3 or fewer register.

Taskforce Report

A host has been assigned for each Spring 2023 Zoom course. We are short handed, so the duties for one class are being shared. Carolyn Siewers is doing the administrative duties for the China course and Leslie will be starting and running the class on Mondays at 9:30.

Laura Phillips,

Registrar and Taskforce coordinator

STANDING COMMITTEES

CURRICULUM:

The Committee has developed a lengthy list of possible presenters for the 2022-2023 Winter Presentations and/or February mini-courses. We have one mini course confirmed.

For the Fall 2023 semester, to date we have six out of eight confirmed online courses

and three out of eight in-person courses; a fourth in-person course is pending documentation of the presenter's Covid vaccinations per the LS Covid Policy. A fall walking course is also confirmed.

The Committee finalized a planning survey after two rounds of full committee input followed by review of the survey subcommittee's final recommendations. It was agreed that the best time to promulgate the survey is sometime in late April after the Spring 2023 semester is under way.

The Committee reviewed a suggested Lifespring Curriculum Calendar of Events and agreed it would be a planning asset for our members as well for members of the public wishing to attend events open to all such as winter presentations and mini courses.

Natalee will get confirmation of the Spring 2024 Semester dates from Rahel at the WJC prior to any further action.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Cuttle

EVENTS:

The committee is working on the annual Meeting.

Prudence Garcia-Renart

HOSPITALITY:

Input at Tuesday's Board meeting requested re "hospitality for the Spring"

Issue: There is a 3' distance requirement; I don't see how we could set up in the hospitality room for the in-person classes. Setting up outside with coffee and pastry would be fine but weather dependent and that sometimes is difficult in April. Even with that, people would be closer than 3'.

Do you (Fellow Board members) have any ideas? Also, I will have to check with committee members to see who is still interested in being on the hospitality committee.

Obviously, it is the same situation for the annual meeting.

Maureen H

MEMBERSHIP

After a very successful season of Winter Presentations and February Mini-Courses, Lifespring will be returning to "Members Only" for our spring semester. The list of people who have expressed interest in becoming members of Lifespring for the 2023/24

year continues to grow. A special thanks to Susan Puretz for keeping track of the Lifespring email inquiries about membership and for her gracious response notes, to Laura Phillips and the tech team for making all the guests at the presentations this winter feel welcome, and to Susan Greenstein for her work to make our catalogs and website welcoming to visitors and members alike.

Lastly, we will begin accepting enrollment of new members (and renewal for current members) on August 1, 2023 with the release of Fall, 2023 Lifespring catalog. Tell your friends!

Thank you!
Susan Davis
Membership Coordinator

PROGRAM SUPPORT

Nothing to report
Susan Krompier

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Leslie Surprenant
Nothing to report.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

AV

Nothing to report from AV.
Rich Davis

CLASS MANAGERS:

There is no report for this month. HOWEVER, when Laura has the final class list in April ---- I will assign class managers to the specific classes.

Lee Gable

PUBLICATIONS COORDINATOR

Susan Greenstein

Spring Catalog

The spring catalog has been proofread and is awaiting final version from Anna Landewe. The catalog will be published online the afternoon of March 14 th to coordinate with the email to members the morning of the 15 th .

Website

Updates continue as needed. Susan Davis continues to liaison with David Cartmell to post minutes in the vault. The website will be updated on March 14 th to reflect the new catalog and other updates.

Lifespring newsletter, News & Views

TBD



Snowdrops and daffodils

Nominations Committee Report (Diane McDowell & Laura Philips, Co-chairs)

The positions on the Board that are up for election are Vice President, Treasurer, and two Members At Large.

The incumbents in each of these positions were first contacted to determine if they are interested in running for another term. Vice President Natalee Rosenstien, Treasurer Peg Nau, and both Members At Large Lee Gable and Anne Miller all agreed to run for another term.

An email letter was sent to the membership on March 6 inviting nominations. A description of the duties of the positions was included. It was noted in the letter that the incumbents in these positions are all eligible to run for another term. The membership has 10 days to respond with additional nominations.

A slate of nominees will be presented to the Board for approval by the Nominating Committee at the April 11 meeting.

A second email letter will be sent to the membership listing the approved nominees, with a brief statement from each nominee. Members will be notified that the electronic ballot will be sent to members May 9 with a return due date of May 16. The ballot will feature a photo and the candidate statement for each nominee.

There will also be a ballot line to write in another name for each position.

Covid related Questions to Consider & for Discussion:

1. Should we have a COVID policy at all for 2023/24? Should we modify the existing policy? Should we maintain the existing policy?
2. Should Lifespring continue to require proof of vaccination for all in-person classes and events.....if so, which vaccinations and which boosters? Same as we have this past year?
3. Should the mask mandate be lifted making masks optional? (And perfectly acceptable for those who wish to continue to wear them)
4. Should there be any attempt at social distancing, even if it is not a written requirement? Should classroom capacity reflect a more "roomy" approach than our pre-covid standard?
5. If a member who has attended in-person classes or an event is diagnosed with COVID during the semester, should he/she report that to the registrar and should the registrar report that to members?
6. Should Lifespring return to offering a hospitality room? In what format? Just between morning classes? With reduced choices and no tables for sitting? Outside in good weather?

Summary (as of 2-14-2023) of other local LLI's Covid Policies

Bard LLI: " The page is updated frequently and includes the most recent information available. Bard currently requires all visitors to campus, including LLI members, to be fully vaccinated with at least one booster. Effective September 19, 2022 and until further notice, LLI members and guests have the option to wear a mask at their own discretion when they are inside a building on campus.

Bard College is a “mask-friendly” campus. With this policy, we have lifted the indoor mask mandate, but encourage anyone who wishes to wear a mask to do so.”

Note: Spring catalog due out in a couple of weeks

Vassar LLI: from the Spring '23 Catalog: This Semester Classes Will Be Conducted In Person And Via Zoom.

Proof of Covid vaccinations MUST be submitted for attendance in ALL in-person ON and OFF CAMPUS classes.

Also from the Vassar College COVID page:

Masking

Masks will not be required on campus, although masks will be encouraged when indoors in large groups. Hosts of events may determine masking protocols, and faculty may require masking in classes or laboratories. We ask that people routinely have a mask available, and masking is always permitted and supported.

New Paltz LLI:

There is nothing in their Spring catalog or on their website about a COVID policy and we understand they are not enforcing one any longer.

