

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING
LIFESPING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 13, 2023**

PRESENT

Susan Poretz, President
Natalee Rosenstein, Vice-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 (until 9:40 a.m.)
Susan Davis, Membership Coordinator
Susan Krompiew, Program Support Coordinator
Maureen Huben, Hospitality Coordinator
Lee Gable, Member-at-Large and Class Managers Coordinator
Diane McDowell, Member-at-Large
Leslie Surprenant, Member-at-Large
Lydia Edelhaus, Member-at-Large
Rich Davis, AV Coordinator

ABSENT

Anne Miller, Member-at-Large

This regularly scheduled online meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Susan P at 9:30 A.M.

A. Discussion Of Preamble Event (moved from original agenda position as new business)

- a. Prudence, who was beginning long distance travel in her car, joined us for a few minutes to request that the Board consider whether the Preamble event should be a hybrid or in-person only event.
- b. After discussion, Laura with a second by Maureen H. made a **MOTION** that the Preamble event for fall 2023 be an in-person event. **MOTION approved unanimously.**

B. Minutes:

- a. **A MOTION was made** by Natalee with a second by Diane that the previously distributed minutes of the Annual Meeting on May 31, 2023 be accepted. Without discussion, the **MOTION was approved.**
- b. **A MOTION was made** by Susan K with a second by Diane that the previously distributed minutes of the Board's Meeting on May 9, 2023 be accepted. The **MOTION was approved** without discussion.

C. President's Report and General Updates(See attached): by Susan P

- a. In response to June 5 update e-mail to all members, Susan P. received 3 positive notes.
- b. Susan P raised the question submitted by Maureen H in her report (attached) regarding whether to have refreshments before in-person classes as well as between classes.

Discussion included:

- a reminder of need to budget additional cost for prep space before class meetings,
 - practical implications for Maureen H and the committee,
 - suggestion of an appeal for additional hospitality committee members before classes begin,
 - support for Maureen H.'s plan for a simplified menu
 - will not accept food donations,
 - need storage space for urns etc.,
 - will accept voluntary financial donations,
 - will continue discussion at future meetings
- c. Susan K finds herself no longer able to attend monthly Board Meetings. She is willing and able to continue providing program support tasks but wishes to be exempt from attendance at board meetings. Diane suggested appointing a co-coordinator to serve on the Board and learn the “ropes” of Program Support. Susan P asked all Board members to think and suggest a possible co-coordinator. Lee made a suggestion of Betsy Mills although additional suggestions are still welcome.

D. Old Business

- a. Curriculum Committee by Connie
 - i. Survey by the Curriculum Committee - 85 out of 202 responded (42% rate of return) Connie noted that a significant number of responders were also active on the Board or committees of Lifespring.
 1. Connie suggested sending this again in the fall requesting only those who not respond in the spring do so in the fall. Connie raised questions of the usefulness of the responses based on the number of returns. Others noted that a 42% rate of return would be considered a significant and meaningful response.
 2. Natalee suggested sending a “thank-you for responding” note to the membership. Susan P is drafting a thank-you note and will consult with Connie regarding content. Natalee

- also suggested that the results be made available to the membership.
3. Rich requested that Board see survey results. Connie agreed to send this to the Board.
- ii. AV concerns – Connie reported that 3 presenters need AV support for fall in-person classes.
1. Leslie has agreed, after consultation with Rich, to manage her own AV needs for the fall.
 2. Laura will be responsible for assisting Don Avalon with a portable microphone and means of playing music if needed.
 3. The Supreme Court course will require more complex AV assistance including Internet capacity, a projector and screen. Connie expects this course to be located in the Sanctuary. Rich offered that he and one volunteer can cover this course for AV support using the WJC large screen TV monitor following training by Karen. This assumes Karen's availability and payment to her for training at least Rich and one other person.
 4. These arrangements will work for the fall but leaves the larger questions regarding the status of AV needs and resources unresolved.
 5. Leslie noted her concern about the age of Lifespring's laptop equipment.
 6. Rich as AV Coordinator agreed that reasonable AV support should be provided for in-person classes however he recommended that "heavy AV" classes are better served by presentation on Zoom. Rich is concerned that we do not return to the pre-COVID situation in which as many as 3 concurrent classes in each of the 3 periods required AV support. That was an unsustainable level of service. He recommended that at most 1-2 classes requiring AV support be offered in a class period. The availability of a large screen TV monitor as an integral part of the set up will be a tremendous assist for the provision of services since it eliminates the need for setup of a projector and portable projection screen in the room. Rich recalled that Karen (of WJC) hoped to have completed a Users' Guide to the WJC system soon which would allow Lifespring volunteers to provide AV support. If a second concurrent use room is needed, Rich recommended Room 5 which has our Lifespring mounted projection screen.

7. Laura suggested John Dashman could learn to assist with simple AV requirements and cautioned that we remain without an on-site troubleshooter.
 8. Natalee thanked Leslie, Laura and Rich for stepping up to resolve most of the AV issues for the fall. She noted that someone will need to approach Karen about both training and the possibility of moving the second large monitor if it is needed in another room, such as if we wanted to use the Social Hall concurrently with the Sanctuary for separate classes.
 9. Connie thanked everyone who has agreed to help for the fall and reassured the Board that she encourages Zoom for those courses that cannot be accommodated in-person due to AV or other requirements, and that some presenters who prefer in-person teaching have graciously agreed to present on Zoom at her request. She and the Curriculum Committee face a juggling act to meet the needs of members and presenters for every set of courses offered.
- b. WJC contract –update by Natalee
- i. Basics of fees and use of rooms is established
 - ii. Dates are confirmed
 - iii. Rate per class has increased compared to previous years but overall costs have not increased since we no longer have afternoon classes.
 - iv. Details regarding use of equipment, additional time for before class hospitality, etc. will be in place in time for the fall.
 - v. Relationship with WJC continues to be amicable.
 - vi. WJC has reassured LS that space for LS will be available through Spring 2025.

E. New Business

- a. Preamble in September- presented at the beginning of meeting
- b. Other new business – no topics raised.

A MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Laura with a second by Diane. **MOTION was accepted unanimously** without discussion.

The meeting was adjourned by Susan P at 11:10 a.m.

Maureen G. Bybee,
Secretary

NEXT MEETING: August 8, 2023 (on Zoom) at 9:30 a.m.
(NOTE: There is no meeting in July)

AGENDA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 13, 2023

A. Minutes: May 9, 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. Curriculum Committee
 - a. Survey by the Curriculum Committee.
 - b. AV concerns
2. WJC contract --update

D. New Business (Looking Forward)

1. Preamble in September (date/entertainment/hospitality/budget)
2. Other new business

NEXT MEETING:

August 8, 2023 (on zoom) at 9:30 am (NOTE: There is NO MEETING IN July)

**Reports to the Lifespring Board
Meeting June 13, 2023**

PRESIDENT:

Well, Lifespring is off and running as we END our 14th year of operation (hard to believe how fast time can fly!!). At this time, All seems good and under control as we look forward to beginning our 15th year in August.

Two things:

First:

The very very very (and I cannot say that word enough) hard work put in by ALL of you have contributed to the successful year we just completed.

Second: Sharing some “uplifting” compliments:

On Mon, Apr 24, 2023 at 1:04 PM Mary Tyler wrote to Laura

Hi Laura

Just wanted to send a two thumbs up for both wonderful presentations given by Lifespring today. Ms. Berman was totally engaging and fascinating while the Banned book talk gave me so much to consider and think about. We are fortunate that both of these ladies willingly shared their talents with the group.

Thanks so much.

Mary Tyler

On Mon, Apr 24, 2023 at 8:29 AM David Cartmell wrote:

What a happy surprise last week to come out from class & there was coffee & donuts awaiting! Such a treat! Thank you Life Springs...keep up the good work 🙏☕🍩👏

And thank you for the interesting set of courses! David

As well as this note:

Hi Susan. I have company coming for the week starting memorial weekend. So unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the meetings or performances or bonus programs. I am so sorry because I really thoroughly enjoyed each one.

Please know that I am very interested in continuing and looking forward to the next set of courses. Thank you again for your hard work.

Fondly, JoAnn Argis

Regarding the Annual Meeting ----25 MEMBERS ORIGINALLY SIGNED UP FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE AT THE Annual meeting Two notified Prudence that they were ill and not coming.....OF THE 22 FINALLY EXPECTED ---ONLY 2 DID NOT ATTEND –btw: Those two did not HAVE THE COURTESY OF INFORMING US OF THEIR NON-ATTENDANCE !!!

Sharing a comment by Connie who said:

I thought the annual meeting went very well. Between the folks in person and the those online, I think over 50 attended. As a zoom attendee, I heard and saw everything and the slides worked well. Connie Cuttle

And I finish my report with what I said Aug 2022:

“At the risk of giving ourselves a kinahora (note: it is a Yiddish word that is used after giving someone praise to wish that the Evil Eye does not happen to them).”

All seems good and under control at the amazing end of our 14th and the beginning of our 15th!

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:

Following is the attendance report for the Spring 2023 semester including both in-person and Zoom classes.

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY SPRING 2023							
Course Name	Registered After Drops	17-Apr	24-Apr	1-May	8-May	15-May	22-May
A1 Unusual Jobs	42	41	37	31	31	27	27
A3 China	23	20	17	15	12	13	15
A4 Landmark Lit	32	28	28	28	28	24	23
B2 Banned Books	49	39	38	Cancelled	38	36	36
B3 Comedy	24	21	d	15	13	13	Only 5 weeks
B4 Land Liberty Loss	19	20	16	11	9	9	12
							113
		19-Apr	26-Apr	3-May	10-May	17-May	24-May
C1 b 1876	19	16	15	15	13	13	16
C2 Mahjong	8	8	8	7 plus sub	6 plus sub	6 plus sub	5 plus sub
C3 Play reading	9	8	7	8	7	7	8
D1 Tennessee Williams	22	17	15	15	15	17	17
D2 Bridge	6	5	5	Canceled	3	3	3

Course Name	Registered After Drops	17-Apr	24-Apr	1-May	8-May	15-May	22-May
D3 Drawing	9	10	9	7	7	4	5
E1 Spring Ramble	19		Cancelled	7	9	6	
Writer's workshop 4/20	8	8					
Country Folk Concert 4/27	31	19					
Songs of Hudson Valley 5/12	31	Cancelled					
Zoom Mad Monologues of May 5/18	41	25					

In summary, there were 52 members who attended the annual meeting - 32 members attended on Zoom and 20 attended at the WJC. The cost for having Karen Levine provide the planning with our taskforce, setup on the day of the meeting and technical services at the meeting was \$270. We used the WJC camera, multiple microphones, 2 TV displays and their soundboard. The technical production appeared to go very smoothly from the WJC vantage point. **I would be interested in getting feedback from those that attended the hybrid meeting on Zoom about their experience at home.** When I was at the podium I could see the gallery of participants who were watching on Zoom, but many of them did not have their computer cameras on so there were very few faces visible.

We have 28 presenters from Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 who are eligible for free membership in 2023-24. Two of those are already jumpstarters and have permanent membership.

I have updated the Square credit card site with the new membership fee of \$80 and changed the dates on the membership description.

Roz Abramov and Kathy Wise took the taskforce training this past year. I hope they will be available to assist as co-hosts in Zoom classes this coming fall.

Laura Phillips

STANDING COMMITTEES

CURRICULUM:

The Curriculum Committee has completed a full schedule of online and in-person courses for the Fall 2023 semester. The February mini-course schedule is awaiting the final confirmation of one course; in the fall we will complete winter presentations for January and March. Four performances/presentations have been scheduled at the Saugerties Library Community Room on either Thursdays or Fridays during the Fall Semester, three of which will feature Lifespring members. We have also booked a Welcome to Fall 2023 concert with Storm King Skyline for September 22nd at 1 pm at the WJC. (The group had to cancel their scheduled spring performance when a member contracted Covid.)

Connie Cuttle

EVENTS:

I will miss the board meeting as I will be driving back from Ohio. Sorry. Nothing really to

report at this point.

Prudence Garcia-Renart

HOSPITALITY:

My input is that refreshments were provided between classes on Wednesday of this semester. I did not do this the first week or two. Refreshments were also provided for the annual meeting. Everyone seemed to enjoy them. Liz and Leslie provided a valuable service as Liz picked up the coffee and delivered it to the WJC and Leslie saw that it was kept warm.

an addendum to this.

I am going to wait until Laura has some idea of the in person attendees for the fall semester to make plans for refreshments. **In one of the announcements it refers to Refreshments being available between classes. Is that accurate or will Refreshments also be available before classes? That would be preferable to me and whoever may be working with me as we would still be able to take the first course in the morning. As I mentioned before, refreshments will be limited to fruit, small pastries and coffee/ tea. I feel we will not have the volunteers to prepare the buffet that we have in prior years.**

Maureen H.

MEMBERSHIP

A special thanks to Susan Puretz for including in her remarks at the Annual Meeting several items of particular interest and relevance to our Members including: the membership fee increase for 2023/24 from \$50 to \$80, the rescinding of the COVID policy that has been in effect for the 2022/23 year, the membership statistics (202 members that include 62 new members), as well as a look ahead to some of the key dates coming up for renewing or becoming a member for 2023/24 and registering for classes for the Fall. Susan and I followed-up her speech with an email to all members outlining these important announcements. I will follow up with a similar email to the large number of people who are on our **Interest List** and are not currently LS members. Many of the Interest List people found their way to Lifespring through the website, while others attended one or more of our “free to the community” winter programming via Zoom. Additional emails will be sent to Members and to Interest List people as the summer progresses and we get closer to the Catalog reveal date of August 1.

New members and returning members may pay their membership fee (credit card is encouraged) from August 1–18th. The Course Registration for all members will start on/about August 22nd and end on September 8th. We have several people who

qualify for a free membership including those who presented a 4-6 week class during 2022/23. They have been awarded a free membership for the year as a "thank you" for their participation. We also have several original members known as "Jumpstarters" who have a free membership for life.

I am looking forward to a new Lifespring year. Hopefully many of our current members will renew and we will have a good group of new members.....to be continued!

Susan Davis

PROGRAM SUPPORT

All room for classes were set up as arranged with WJC. Signs were available for members as needed to direct to classrooms. Tables were set up by WJC for refreshments and membership.

Masks and hand sanitizer were available for members who attended classes indoors.

Susan Krompfer

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

No report

Leslie Surprenant

AD HOC COMMITTEES

AV

Spent some time preparing a set of Keynote slides to be used in our president's presentation to the Lifespring Annual Meeting, and sharing them at the event.

Rich Davis

CLASS MANAGERS

Nothing new to report for this meeting.

Lee Gable

PUBLICATIONS COORDINATOR

I have been in touch with Susan G and D, Anna, Connie, and Laura re catalogue and website.

Shooting for June 1 to send all copy to Anna. Changed Latest News to include announcement of catalogue date and new Covid policy. Old policy still mistakenly on website. Waiting for Anna to delete old policy.

So, all in all, things are moving along.

Cheers,

Anne Miller

		LIFESPRING TREASURER'S REPORT															
		May 2023	2022-2023														
		EXPENSES															
Balance Fwd	18161.75	Balances FWD	\$ (6,600.00)	\$ (110.34)	\$ (1,163.75)	\$ (2,188.38)	\$ (54.96)	\$ (144.74)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (354.50)	\$ 8,848.43	\$ 77.71			
Date	Amt	Received From	Rent	Hospitality Costs	Thank you Gifts/ Donations	Catalog design &print	Newsletter	Website Fees & Domain	Audio Video	Office Supplies	Annual meeting/ Events	Library Setup	Misc	Program fees	Hospitality Donations	Interest	
5/31/2023	\$ 11.42	Interest															11.42
Monthly Income	\$11.42		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11.42
EXPENSE		Amt	Payee														
5/2/2023	\$92.22	1373 Susan Poretz	\$ 92.22														
5/5/2023	\$96.05	1374 Susan Poretz	\$ 96.05														
5/5/2023	\$86.46	1375 Susan Poretz	\$ 86.46														
5/5/2023	\$151.16	1376 Laura Phillips	\$ 151.16														
5/18/2023	\$86.46	1377 Susan Poretz	\$ 86.46														
05/18/23	\$ 6.08	1378 Maureen Huben	\$ 6.08														
05/18/23	\$ 332.50	1379 Anna Landewe	\$ 332.50														
05/26/23	\$ 96.05	1380 Susan Poretz	96.05														
Monthly Expense	\$ 946.98		\$ -	\$ 463.32	\$ -	\$ 332.50	\$ -	\$ 151.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ending Balance	\$17,226.19		-\$6,600.00	-\$573.66	\$0.00	-\$1,496.25	\$0.00	-\$2,339.54	-\$54.96	-\$144.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$354.50	\$8,848.43	\$0.00	\$89.13	