

OLLI Curriculum Committee Meeting
UNT Business Service Center, Room 4002
September 4, 2018
2:00 PM

Present: Diana Mason, Peggy Higgins, Debbie Smatresk, Rebecca Fridley, Jim Goodnow, Stephen Booher, Ellen Hawk, Ron Fink, Diane Hoemeke, Karen Nelsen, Pat Cheek, Jordan Williams

Absent: Sally Austin, Robert Jackson, Stephanie Reinke, Cleta Plunkett

Secretary for Curriculum Committee

Diane Hoemeke agreed to be secretary for the curriculum committee.

SIG Report

Rebecca Fridley reported that the “twisted book club”, which primarily focuses on mysteries, will meet for the first time on September 13 and on the second Thursday of each month thereafter. Because Rebecca travels and will be unable to attend all book club meetings, she circulated a list of “twisted book club” members who might be identified, by committee members, to cover for her in her absence.

Curriculum Committee Meeting Fall/Early Winter Dates

Dates and times for curriculum committee meetings for October through January are:

1. Tuesday, October 9, 2018, from 10:00am until 12:00pm (noon)
2. Tuesday, November 13, 2018, from 10:00am until 11:00am
3. Tuesday, December 4, 2018, from 10:00am until 11:00am
4. Tuesday, January 8, 2019, from 10:00am until 11:00am

Deadline for submission for spring classes is September 15. (Jordan added this information is on the OLLI website.) The committee will be able look at the proposed topics at the October meeting. The winter semester begins the end of January.

New Classes and Faculty

Jim Goodnow will be leading a great decisions program at Robson Ranch in February, March, and April of next year (2019). There will be eight sessions on Thursdays from 4:30pm until 6:00pm. Specific topics are yet to be decided. Jim may get help from faculty at UNT and TWU.

Suggested topics and comments for future classes/presentations included:

- Tour of UNT campus, especially for members of the Denton community who, otherwise, are not familiar with the campus. It was suggested that this might be a good after-five program on campus.
- Tour of TWU campus
- Up-date on happenings and expansion of the city of Denton. It was suggested that the city manager of Denton might be a contact person for such a presentation.
- Prohibition Era in US
- Nuremberg Trials
- History of the Middle East—Ottoman Empire to present day
- Powers of the US President—what they are, where they come from
- Chemistry topic on the lunch and learn circuit. Diana Mason mentioned she and Guido Verbeck would be willing to do presentation(s) related to science.

In response to the issue of suggesting topics for classes but not knowing someone with appropriate expertise, the response was to contact Stephanie for the follow-up.

Travel Topics

Karen suggested forming a committee or sub-committee to work on international travel and marketing.

Debbie asked Jordan about responses to current OLLI trips. She thought eight have currently signed-up for Cuba. Jordan will check on interest of the other trips.

Jim proposed surveying OLLI membership regarding interest in travel destinations, which would include local, domestic, and international travel. Ellen suggested the cost of such trips be included in the survey. Jim thought there might be interest in Oberammergau Passion Play and Northern Lights of Iceland.

Peggy said the survey should include Flower Mound. She attended a class at the senior center there, which was well attended. However, she said, without OLLI id-badges, it was impossible to tell who were members of OLLI and who were "drop-ins".

Jim needs people to accompany day trippers and to help make arrangements for these trips. First trip, September 19, is to the Bureau of Printing and Engraving and to the Texas Motor Speedway; 28 have signed-up to go. Cars will be leaving from Robson and Flower Mound. OLLI will cover the cost of a bus and van at the Motor Speedway; each participant then gets a ride around the track. Using a bus and van also keeps the cost to \$8.00 a person. There is still a need for drivers from Robson and Flower Mound.

The trip to the Dallas Zoo is, Wednesday, October 28. To date, eight have signed-up to go. Diana suggested that the train is a viable transportation option.

Diana Mason is leading a trip to Blue Ostrich Winery near St. Jo on November 10. To date, 28 people have signed-up.

Several ideas for spring travel and classes included:

- UNT campus tour
- Blue bonnet tour; city of Ennis offers a bus tour of blue bonnets
- Bus tour of Denton County Horse Farms
- Schulenburg painted churches, with the possibility of an over-night stay
- Chickasaw Cultural Center in Oklahoma
- Buddhist Temple, Jewish Synagogues, Muslim Mosques in Dallas and tying this to a class on "non-Western" religions
- Adding a musical performance or rehearsal to the UNT campus tour
- Tap into the UNT school of music for after-five presentations
- Contact someone from Community Theater to explain how productions are arranged

Other

Peggy asked about evaluations. Posters with the code scanner for evaluations are at Robson, Flower Mound, and Frisco. Jordan said there are still evaluations being done but not as many as when there were paper evaluations.

Debbie said she would inquire how others are getting feed-back/evaluations at the national OLLI conference in the spring.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:53pm.