Osher Leadership Council Minutes for September 13, 2011

Chair Carl Booberg opened the meeting at 3:20 pm.

Members attending the meeting were Carl Booberg, Tim Williams, Bill Bailey, Delores Kimbrough, Sally Wood, George Pangburn, Ann Williams, and Marshall Ervine. Pat Brown, Jane Dowrick and Debra Guild attended as staff.

Minutes of the June 14, 2011 meeting of the Leadership Council were reviewed; a motion was made and passed to accept the minutes as presented.

Director’s Report

Jane announced that we had 50 new students join Osher in August. Course enrollments are high. The Annual Report to the Osher Foundation will be presented to the council at the December meeting. Jane reported that the membership fee increase has been accepted very well with very few complaints. With this increase, income from fees should steadily increase over the next few years. The annual back to school mixer and volunteer recognition was very successful with the best attendance overall of past mixers. Nearly 200 guests joined us to celebrate the new school year and recognize our volunteers. Jane will be presenting a program on sustainability, “Making the ends meet”, at the UPCEA conference in October. She and Osher member, Anita Kozakewicz, are working together on a program proposal on dialogue methods, for presentation at the ASA conference next year. Anita recently assisted nearby Virginia Commonwealth University as facilitators with the Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program, putting to use dialog methods they learned earlier in an Osher class. The Osher Institute will direct and lead a new initiative, the Osher Fellows program. Jane will be coordinating this effort involving Osher members in the planning of the new program. There will be a cost to members interested in participating in 12-18 months of UR study that would result in the development of an impactful project for the community. The current goal is to have this initiative in place by August of 2012 with the announcement of the fellows at that time. The Center for Civic Engagement will be involved as a partner to design and support the program.

Chair’s Report

Carl showcased and complimented the offerings in the fall schedule of Osher classes. He thanked Delores Kimbrough for her ongoing work to develop the Osher speakers bureau of Osher members who will reach out to potential Osher members in the greater community.

Team Reports

Development Team: Carl reported work continues with the development of fundraising. Advancement has the final say in matters relating to fundraising across campus. They continue to work on a plan for us in reaching out to large companies or grant projects. The team will continue to research other types of fundraising to present to advancement for their review. The team hopes to have a plan in place by spring of 2012.

Curriculum Team: Carl reported in Sheryl DeLeo’s absence. Planning is in place for the spring 2012 schedule of classes.

Leader Support Team: Bill Bailey and his support team continue to assist our leaders in the classroom and are also offering to orient leaders to resources in the UR library. He has attended a helpful class
A draft of the vision for their team was distributed. A final draft will be presented at the December meeting.

Marketing Team: Delores Kimbrough reported on behalf of the team, which is currently without a chair, that the marketing team has made great progress on the development of the speakers bureau. They have met to discuss possible candidates who might be willing to participate on the panel of speakers. The team has established a list of “talking points” to use for standard presentations by all speakers on the bureau. The speakers bureau will present at a Henrico County workshop on October 27th and to the Knights of Columbus early in 2012. The marketing team would like to add more members and asked that names of potential team members or speakers bureau engagements be given to the team.

Membership Team: Sally Wood, team chair, distributed a team progress report to the council. She reminded the Council about the impact of Osher class quality on retaining members and the importance of completing class evaluations to help keep us aware of where class improvements are needed. The team discussed various ways of transporting Osher members to campus who may have difficulty getting to our programs.

New Business

Jane suggested that because of the resignation earlier in the year of the vice chair it would be helpful if Carl Booberg would serve an additional year as Chairman, thereby giving a new vice chair time to transition into the role of chair. Carl indicated that he would be willing to continue as chair pending approval by the Council members. Council members present expressed their approval and thanked Carl for his willingness to serve an additional year. With Carl’s continuance on the council this leaves two positions to be filled. A list of potential leadership council members, replacing our two members rotating off the council, will be presented at the meeting in December. Two short meetings will occur in October and early November to finalize the Class of 2014 list for presentation to the council. Council members were asked to email names of any potential council members to Tim Williams at tpwill@comcast.net.

Delores Kimbrough is continuing her work to develop an Osher member choir as a new interest group. There are currently ten Osher members who are interested in being part of the choir, and a search is on for a choir director.

Tim Williams reported that he attended the Southern Regional Lifelong Learning Conference at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

The next meeting of the Leadership Council will be Tuesday, December 13.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Debra Guild.