Osher Leadership Council Minutes for December 13, 2011

With a warm welcome, Chairman, Carl Booberg called the meeting to order at 11:15 am.

Members present: Carl Booberg, Marshall Ervine, Sally Wood, Tim Williams, Bill Bailey, George Pangburn, Sheryl DeLeo, Ann Williams, Delores Kimbrough. Pat Brown, Jane Dowrick and Deb Guild attended as staff.

The minutes of the September 13th meeting were previously reviewed; a motion was made and passed to accept the minutes as submitted.

Chair’s Report: Carl thanked everyone for their continued service and expressed gratitude for their involvement over the last 7.5 years with special thanks to Tim Williams who has been a part of the team since inception. We continue to reach out to new members inviting them to join in the many opportunities as a student and a volunteer.

Curriculum Team: Sheryl DeLeo reported the team has two new members: Pam Pangburn and Bill Seward. Bill has designed a template with a step by step process on how to develop a class for Osher. He will also be leading a class this coming spring. The team has decided to stay with the current design of offering mini-courses and learning on the run lectures for the summer. There was concern that membership might drop if we converted to single session classes only. Sheryl and her team have learned the students enjoy outings associated with a class, such as the Poe Museum outing. Discussion of favorite past classes and the exceptional line up of spring classes followed.

Development Team: Carl Booberg reported UR is redesigning their development process to meet with the goals of the long range plan for the university. Advancement continues to explore how we fit into their planning.

The development team continues to work closely with Jane on the Osher Development fund focusing on our second year drive, concludes June 2012, with some emphasis on memorial gifts. With the initial launching last year of our annual fund, we raised over $4,000.00 by the end of the fiscal year, June 31st. Dean Narduzzi matched our contribution from his discretionary fund. A matching gift was received from Dominion.

In October, some members reported receiving a letter from Advancement, which included a card for your designated gift. Advancement will continue to send a letter on our behalf. Their process does not preclude us from doing Osher related events to raise money. After more discussion, the council decided to announce the opportunity to give at our Osher member orientation sessions. It was also decided that Jane would confirm we can offer the opportunity to give stated in the catalog. Jane will also explore the opportunity to solicit during class sessions through our course leaders. The council indicated they would like to invite Erin McClung from Advancement to meet with the council and provide a presentation or possibly conduct a workshop to educate members on their process and how to give a gift to UR. A letter was passed around that Carl had received from Erin McClung related to the tax benefits deadline. Notify Erin McClung with any specific questions on the tax benefit.
Discussion ended with the suggestion to hold an event celebrating our 10 year anniversary.

Leader Support Team: Bill Bailey announced the leader support team now has four members and would like one additional volunteer. Any suggestion of members would be greatly appreciated. We continue to offer support to our leaders mostly with audio-visual support. A member of our team attempts to attend the first class of first time instructors. The responsibility is shared equally among the team members. Please forward any suggestions to Bill.

Marketing Team: Delores Kimbrough distributed and reviewed a detailed marketing report. They continue their search for a chair and additional members. Marshall Ervine recently spoke to a group of interested Henrico County teachers. The team asks that suggestions for speaking engagements be sent to the Marketing Team with contact name and phone number. They are actively pursuing possible speaking engagements for 2012 with DuPont, Exxon Corporation and Virginia Union. A blast email was sent to members encouraging more involvement. A search is still underway for a choir director. Delores encouraged members to meet in front of the Modlin Center to carol around campus. Sally Wood and Bill Bailey committed to joining the Speaker’s Bureau.

Membership Team: Sally Wood reported for the membership team announcing they are receiving great feedback on the member orientation sessions. The team will now start soliciting members to run the orientations. In making calls to new members, the team has received feedback. Members have especially enjoyed Marshall’s walking tour. Our new members find the tours very helpful. Pat Brown suggested members may enjoy the evening tours SPCS provides to new students. Pat will supply the team with the schedule for the evening student tours. Both tours focus on different areas of interest. Sally announced with her rotation off the council, they are in need of a new chair of the Membership Team.

Director’s Report: Jane distributed and reviewed a copy of the annual report to the Osher Foundation. This year’s increase in membership has been the first increase since 2008. We are continuing to see an upward trend and course enrollments are also high. Jane has met with Osher members on the Osher Fellows project. The team will continue to meet and explore the project with focus on creating a project whose end result will have a significant impact on the community. Pat and Jane, along with Dick Dunsing, met yesterday and will continue to meet with you bringing together a focus group to further shape this project. Dick has agreed to serve as the facilitator. A decision has been made to have a planning year. Jane will be in touch with each of you to explore the extent you wish to be involved. Jane thanked the members of the team for being so involved and bringing us to where we are today.

New Business and Other Items:

- Nominations for new Leadership Council members: Nominating slate for 2012 was presented to the council by Tim Williams. Two of the three members rotating off the council this year, will continue to serve for another year. This completes one full cycle of electing members to the council. Tim requested the motion to confirm the slate of nominees. George Pangburn asked how the slate is approached after they are confirmed by the committee. Discussion followed with Tim emphasizing that we try to balance the council with engaged members, both male and
female. Motion moved and accepted, accepting the proposed slate of 2012. Tim will notify the member’s acceptance along with a schedule of meeting dates and draft a letter to send to the confirmed members. Ann Williams has agreed to serve as vice chair in 2012 and move into the chair position in 2013.

- **Other Items:** Pat Brown received the Mary Ellen Cox award at the Senior Connections luncheon held October 13, 2011. Pat felt honored to receive the award and proud of the members’ involvement in the growth of the Osher Institute. Pat also attended a very informative marketing conference in Las Vegas, coordinated partly by our marketing director, James Campbell. Delores Kimbrough requested a speaker from the SPCS marketing team to come and talk with their committee.

- Marshall Ervine was presented a gift for his leadership of the Osher Hiker’s group. Marshall announced Floyd Myers, who has been with the Hiker’s group since its forming, will be taking on this role. The Hiker’s group has been a major recruitment tool in building our membership base. Carl Booberg invited Marshall to join the Development Team.

- The Leadership Team wrapped up the meeting with discussion on developing a survey of our members. Each committee was asked to work with the development committee to devise survey questions emphasizing member talent and areas of interest.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.