

Learning Unlimited
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
Jan. 14, 2022

Present: John Willson, Deb Forsyth–Petrov, Rich Bailey, Len Klochek, Janice Manias, Judy McCormick, Yash Sthankiya, Roger Tessier, Rosemary Tessier, Glenn Yaffee.

Regrets: Audra Hudek.

1. Call to Order: 1:32 P.M.

2. Motion: Approval of the minutes of the Dec.2, 2021, Board meeting.
Approval of the Minutes moved by Glenn, seconded by Roger. Approved.

3. Correspondence:
Only correspondence in our mailbox was an invoice for the mailbox.

4. New Business

4.1 Fall survey results: on the whole, our fall 2021 series received favourable reviews.
On the question of a return to in-person, the number of those in favour was around 50%.
That number could well be lower now because of Omicron. The survey results are summarized in the Curriculum Committee report. It was suggested we do the survey again at the end of the winter 2022 series.

4.2 Possibility of return to live presentation:

The survey indicated there is little enthusiasm for attending Fairfield or any venue to watch a lecture on Zoom. Therefore, the hybrid model, as defined by Len, would not be acceptable to most members.

There are many open questions to be resolved:

4.2.1 Could we afford to run an in-person at Fairfield with only 70 attendees? Would attendees accept a higher fee?

4.2.2 Will we be able to secure another venue? Glenn and Deb are trying to get a response from The Cineplex on the Queensway and Kingsway theatre on Bloor with no success to date.

4.2.3 To fulfill our mandate to provide social interaction, could we cooperate with a local bookstore (e.g., A Novel Spot, in Humbertown Plaza) to sponsor a lecture by an author?
Judy has left a letter at the store to see if they are interested.

4.2.4 Can we find a speaker geographically close enough who is willing to do the lecture twice, once in person and again on Zoom? If we can, we could plan to run this as a pilot in the fall of 2022 or fall of 2023 (assuming Covid restrictions allow this). Ideally, we would want a speaker whose topic and style of presentation benefit from the auditorium setting.
And unless we find another venue, we would have to absorb the added speaker cost plus

added cost of a small in-person audience, for the sake of determining if such an approach can work.

5. Treasurer's Report:

John reported our finances are in good shape, but he still cannot table a financial statement until he obtains the financial records and corporate records from the previous Treasurer. Health issues of said ex-Treasurer are still preventing a handover. But we must have these records at least 3 weeks before the AGM in the spring.

6. Committee Reports:

6.1 Technology:

Report was tabled by Len.

Len reported a strange problem as host of the Wed series. Nine attendees reported they had not received the link to watch the lecture. Of these, only one appeared to actually be the fault of the attendee; the other 8 had not received the link from Zoom. Also, looking at the registration records, 3 internet services accounted for 6 of the problems. Len will open a ticket with Zoom to try to understand what happened.

He also reported he was able to help the attendees by using a "copy and paste" method of sending links. But 4 of the 9 notified him too late and missed the Wed. lecture. This once again highlights the importance of attendees' notifying LU ASAP about missing links.

Roger pointed out there is a warning on the Registration page to this effect, but people often ignore this.

6.2 Curriculum:

Judy tabled the report.

This report summarized the attendance for Fall, 2021 series and attendees' evaluations for that series. Courses for Fall, 2022 and Winter, 2023 have been confirmed and outlines approved. Waiver letters need to be sent to the speakers for Fall, 2022 and Winter, 2023.

The decision whether to use the new TAN waiver or our old waiver is still pending.

6.3 Registration:

The report was tabled by Yash.

This report compared the registration for the Winter, 2022 series from Nov. 15, 2021, to Jan. 15, 2022. The total rose from 120 to 662. The reminder email of Jan. 4 had a significant effect on registrations. And again, there were few issues with links, thanks to the Technology Committee.

6.4 Corporate Secretary:

Rich sent out a request to Board members to determine our present practices regarding the collection of information about our attendees and possible violations of our policies and by-laws regarding privacy.

Unfortunately, most Board members were confused by the wording of the request and only Roger responded.

Rich clarified the request with the following questions.

- Do we need all the information we collect?
- Do we have to change our practices?
- Do we need to change our policy and by-laws?

Rich also asked if the Curriculum Committee could send the information about future courses, including topics and speakers, to all Board members. Judy replied that to her knowledge, no one had made this request before. She would be happy to comply, with the proviso that Board members must keep this information confidential and must realize that changes in the present plans are always possible.

Rich also brought up another issue that had been brought to his attention by Janice. Janice feels, and Rich agrees, that as new members on the Board, they are finding it difficult to find their place on the Board, surrounded as they are by more experienced members. The suggestion was made to have a special meeting to address this, rather than use this or the next monthly Board meeting. We should have an effective process to accustom new members to the workings of the Board.

6.5 Third Age Network:

Deb reported she had discussed the new proposed standard Copyright Waiver for speakers with the TAN representative who had worked on the Committee that developed it. A Copyright Waiver is needed to protect TAN organizations from potential litigation in the case of copyright infringement by lecturers. The TAN committee has completed its work on the waiver but cannot release this new Waiver until it has been presented to all TAN Board members and thoroughly discussed with them. The possibility of further Waiver changes arising from this review does exist. The official launch/completion date for the new 'final' TAN Copyright Waiver is not yet confirmed. It will be initially presented to all TAN members at the Feb. 3 Meeting. From what she gleaned, Deb reported that in some aspects, it will be both alike and different from the Copyright waiver that LUES currently uses. Because of the unknown official launch date, it was decided that the LUES Curriculum Chair will continue to use our existing Copyright Waiver except that we will rename it to "Speakers Agreement Letter".

The topic of incorporation came up, with the question: is LU incorporated? LUES is incorporated and Glenn believes LU this was done before 2015, when he joined the Board.

Deb cannot attend the next TAN Board meeting on Feb. 3, where the new Copyright Waiver will be presented and discussed with all TAN members. John will attend on Feb. 3 to hear comments from the other TAN members about the new waiver and will bring this TAN member feedback to our February Board Meeting.

7 Next Meeting:

The next monthly Board meeting will be on Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, at 1:30 P.M.

In addition, the Board will hold a special meeting on Friday, Jan 28, 2022, at 1:30 P.M. to discuss an orientation process for new Board members.

8 Adjournment: 3:29 P.M.