

Dulwich & District U3A Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday 6 September 2018 at Pamela Ruben's home - 10.00am

Present: Liz Day (LD, chair), Neil Abrahams (NA, Minutes), Graham Ashton (GA), Roman Bednarz (RB), Angie Brown (AB), Joy Harris (JH), Chris Henry (CH), Diana McInnes (DM), Verity Mosenthal (VM), Pamela Ruben (PR), Melinda Tenant-Flowers (MTF)

Apologies: Susan Elias (SE), Helen Graham (HG)

1. Review of Planned Agenda. Agreed.

- a. Corrections to Minutes of 16/07/18. None.
- b. AB suggested that time limits should be put on future agendas.

2. Matters arising from Minutes of 16/07/18

- a. Publicity: SE21/22/23 magazines and Dulwich magazine were circulated showing Open Day advertising, articles, and editorial support.
- b. Thanks: LD thanked specific committee members for their hard work in preparing for Sept. Fair.
- c. Bell House: No payment for Politics group has yet been made to them.
- d. Trustees signing: Not all the Committee had signed the form. **RB to follow up.**

3. Interest Group Fair Thursday 13 Sept 12 -2.00pm.

- a. NA presented the hall layout plan; badges; table signs. NA to produce descriptive badges.
- b. CH agreed to be at Reception and click tally the numbers arriving. Help from others required.
- c. Setting up at 11-12; Clearing up 2-3.00pm. Help required. Teas were organised.
- d. LD to welcome people at 12.30, followed by Uke Group for 10 minutes. PA system required (**RB**).
- e. All tables to have a sign-up form for interested people to leave their names and contact details.
- f. Membership forms; publicity leaflets; to be available and on display. Conveners to be briefed.
- g. A grant of £200 from the Third Age Trust was applied for, for running an Open Day.

4. Monthly meetings.

- a. Bell House Garden Party Friday 20th July 2-4pm. This was very successful with over 100 attendance. The 'tours' were very popular. Weather was excellent. In future, to consider additional activities e.g. table tennis, boules, darts, board games?
- b. October 17: Judy Elias (A Life in a Suitcase)
- c. November 12: Angus Hanton ('Intergenerational Fairness' or 'The Generation Game')
- d. January: David Beamish ('What's the use of the House of Lords?')
- e. February: Chris Woodwarde (National Garden Museum)

5. Membership & Treasurer's Reports

- a. **Membership:** JH previously circulated information on "How did you hear about D&D U3A". Key points were that 50% heard from a friend and 26% from 'the internet'. It was acknowledged that often it was the cumulative effect of our activities e.g. Fairs, leaflets, community. Membership was 539.
- b. **Treasurer:** VM previously circulated report. Bank balance £23,447.93. Online banking accessed.
- c. Possible interest-bearing accounts, Barclays (0.20%), Charity Bank (0.75% over £10K).
- d. 75 groups had responded regarding monies collected for e.g. Rosebery, Refreshments, Charity.
- e. Discussion on bank balance deferred until October. **VM and JH** to prepare budget options.

6. Convenors.

- f. Convenors' Information Pack had been printed. To be given to each Convener in a named envelope (**NA**). An electronic version is available. It may be of interest to central U3A (**CH**).

- g. Discussion on criteria for paying for hire of halls for groups. Deferred until Budget discussion in October.
- h. The U3A National Resources Centre is being expanded to offer advice from their Subject Advisors. Conveners to be informed of the improved services.
- i. The next Conveners' (Xmas) meeting was scheduled for Thursday 6th December at Bell House. **LD** to check availability with Angus. Possible topic: time-limited courses.
- j. NA reported that a member had made a complaint about the actions of a convener. LD is involved in trying to resolve it.

6. Reports.

- a. **Third Age Trust AGM.** CH had distributed a report. Topics covered included: London Region Meeting; membership fees; Beacon system. 'Learning not Lonely'; U3A Plus; VOICE; Volunteering; Ageing Well; Constitution; Finances.
NEC Chair: Ian McCannah.
- b. **London Region & South East Region Network.** The AGM of South East Network would be AM on 15 October. AB and LD to attend. RB and CH are D&D delegates at London Region AGM in afternoon, with talk by U3A founder Eric Midwinter. SE Network Study Day on sewers "Down the Drain" on 8 February 2019 at the London Metropolitan Archives.

7. New Members' Teas.

- a. Francis Peek Centre had been booked for 20 September and 20 November. AB to obtain lists of new members in advance from **JH**.
- b. Discussion about expanding the purpose of the Teas and invite additional members. Agreed not to make any changes but to review attendance figures.

8. Publicity.

- a. Herne Hill Market stand was not well attended due to the heavy rain. Thanks were given to the volunteers who were present.
- b. Programme Book: This was currently at the printers and was expected to be ready in time for the Open Day and new members' Tea. Print run of 650 of which 540 were being posted to members by the printer.
- c. NA pointed out that the cost of the last book was approx. £672 + £290 postage. However Solopress printing price was £218 (excluding postage). There was a need to obtain competitive price comparisons.
- d. It was planned to produce another Book in the spring but also have an interim insert to advise members about changes. There was further discussion about whether 2 or 3 Books was best. It was agreed to set up a sub-committee to consider the Book. How often? Alternative styles? Best printers? Electronically available? How best to update the contents? (Sub-committee: NA, AB, PR, Di Deudney, + a member).

9. Newsletter: Next issue end of September. Contributions to Susan asap.

10. AOB.

- a. Reusable/recyclable cups. Need to discuss with Jenny Thomas.
- b. RB proposed that the D&D U3A contact number be changed to an 0800 number where the caller is not charged. Cost is £15 per month. **Agreed.**
- c. NA asked about car stickers which were out of stock. CH thought they were being reprinted.

Meeting closed at 12.50 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday 8 October, 10am at Diana McInnes house, 11 Ferrings, SE21 7LU.