



Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Joyce Avery Paul Christy Laura Simonds	Colet Allen Mary Devlin Ann Magill	Myrna Hall John Schuyler Sarah Tisch

**OLLI Council Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2025**

Council: Joyce Avery, Paul Christy, Laura Simonds, Colet Allen, Mary Devlin, Ann Magill, Myrna Hall, John Schuyler, Sarah Tisch, Heather Inghram

Committee Chairs: Anne Coleman, Karla Langland, Lorraine Vail **On Zoom:** Dwight Wilson

Members and Staff: Tom Woosnam, Phyllis Fernlund, Elizabeth Zinzer **On Zoom:** Megan Rutherford, Tracy Palermini

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm
2. Approval of the Agenda with Flexibility (Hall, Magill)
3. Approval of the Minutes of April 15, 2025 Council Meeting as amended (Avery, Christy)

*Change Returning – member after an absence of one or more years to
Returning – member, but not a member last year (President’s Report, 1) b) ii.)*

4. Reports
 - A. President’s Report – Laura Simonds
 - 1) Membership Report
 - a) Membership growth is 8.3% over last year
 - 2) 2025 Survey Wrap-up
 - a) Committee chairs should share results that apply to them with their committees if they haven’t already done so.
 - b) Overall satisfaction has been maintained over the years.
 - c) Highlights of the survey results will be presented at the annual meeting.
 - B. Financial Update – Paul Christy
 - 1) Draft 2025-26 Budget
 - a) Paul presented the preliminary budget for the fiscal year starting July 2026.

- b) The budget is preliminary because it does not have all of the reconciled, audited results which won't be available until the October time frame.
- c) The preliminary budget was developed based on a review of financial data to date by the finance committee and likely projections for next year with input from the committee chairs.
- d) A final budget will be presented to Council for a vote at the June council meeting.
- e) The budget will be updated if needed in October, based on any updated, reconciled vouchers received from the SOU Foundation in the June to August time frame.
- f) General comments on the preliminary budget
 - i. Projected revenue growth of \$36K assumes that the OLLI musical fundraiser goes forward, the current membership growth rate continues and that fundraising continues to grow.
 - ii. Expense growth includes staff pay and benefits, marketing and catalogue expense growth and increased rent.
 - iii. The budget yields a deficit of \$23K, which is affordable and allows for important expenses and investments.

C. Administrative Director's Report – Heather Inghram

- 1) John and Heather had meeting re problem OLLI member behavior.
- 2) If the problem continues Council will adjudicate.
- 3) An OLLI member asked to carry a political sign in the 4th of July parade.
- 4) Free speech is protected but there are issues re the SOU "brand" and someone expressing an opinion that doesn't represent the university.
- 5) There is not a possible staff retirement in the near future.
- 6) There was an error with 2023 Osher distribution. The distribution was paid, but never taken out of the endowment account, so the account balance is inflated.
- 7) Heather has requested prorated rent of the Campbell Center during the summer based on a fixed number of days of use.
- 8) Fundraising goal for the year has been met with \$79,110 raised so far.

D. Standing Committee & Other Reports

- 1) Communications – Sarah Tisch
 - a) Report stands
- 2) Curriculum – Anne Coleman and Ginny Blankinship
 - a) 57 fall course proposals as of today
- 3) Fundraising – Dwight Wilson
 - a) Report stands
- 4) LRDC – John Schuyler
 - a) Report stands
 - b) 277 votes received so far for Council Directors
- 5) Membership – Colet Allen
 - a) Report stands
- 6) Programs and Activities – Karla Langland
 - a) Report stands

- 7) Venue and Technology – Lorraine Vail
 - a) Report stands
- 8) Travel Pilot Project – Myrna Hall
 - a) Report stands

E. Old Business

- 1) 2030 Strategic Plan–Phyllis Fernlund and John Schuyler

Motion (Schuyler, Magill): I move to approve the OLLI 2030 Strategic Plan, dated May 20, 2025, as modified. **MOTION PASSED**

John presented a summary of the Strategic Plan.

- The plan should be considered as a guide or roadmap. It is not prescriptive.
- 4 goals: structure, curriculum, connection, sustainability
- Detail focuses on opportunities and recommendations.
- Updated plan reflects comments from Council.
 - For example, the concept of volunteerism was in the fourth goal under structure. Structure was brought to the forefront so that volunteerism is emphasized upfront.

General comments.

- The plan should be kept in front of the Council as a guide.
- Committee chairs can tune their goals to the plan.
- Council should make changes as required by leadership changes and unforeseen events, such as the 2020 COVID pandemic.
- Opportunities proposed are not all inclusive.
- Metrics should be laid out by the council and committees.
- Pruning is a “harsh term” that is based on constituent feedback. (Page 8 How should OLLI’s portfolio of courses change?)
- The statement should be deleted as it is not consistent with how OLLI chooses courses.
- The motion was modified to delete the sentence *Pruning of courses that show low member participation will promote capacity to add new course opportunities as well as more access to those with persistent unmet demand.* (page 8)
- Laura thanked the Ad Hoc committee for their efforts.

F. New Business

- 1) Theater Production Proposal–Lorraine Vail

Motion (Devlin, Allen): I move that Council approves an all-OLLI-member show to be performed on the SOU campus during spring term, 2026. The purpose of this event is to provide a fun-filled occasion for OLLI members and friends as well as raise funds for OLLI. **MOTION PASSED**

Event Benefits:

- Involves members as both participants and audience.
- The proposal is good and should work well.
- It has broad support, ex. Rick Bailey.

Potential Risks:

- Bad weather on the day of the event.
- Expenses not likely to be a risk; Cheryl manages to budget.
- Availability of Meese Auditorium is still under negotiation with SOU.
- Desired dates during spring break solve scheduling conflict issues but staffing could be an issue.
- Heather is trying to negotiate a discount.
- Monthly reports on status can be submitted to Council.

2) Travel Pilot Project Recommendation–Myrna Hall

Motion (Hall, Avery): I move that the Council approve the recommendation from the Travel Pilot Project team to extend the pilot project one more year, as presented in their summary report. **MOTION PASSED**

- The team wants to have one more year to grow program.
- Large tours did not sell well, but the possibility of instructor-led tours has generated some interest.
- First participant feedback is just coming in.

G. Additional Remarks

- 1) The Instructor Appreciation is on 5/22 at 4 pm.
 - a) Rick Bailey will speak promptly at 4 pm.
 - b) Entertainment by Derek Washington
- 2) The joint Council Meeting is Wednesday 6/11 from 3:30-5:30 in Room A
 - a) Both the old and new councils will meet at El Paraiso on Clover Lane for dinner after council meeting.
- 3) The Annual Meeting is on June 6 followed by ice cream social.

H. The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 pm.