
NFLL Council **May** 2021 Meeting minutes

Monday, May 10, 2021 - 9:30 am Social Distancing WebEx meeting organized and chaired by Roland Tanner

Attendees:

President: Roland Tanner Vice President: Bob Dukelow

Secretary: Diane Grogan Treasurer:

Past Presidents: Marlin Fried, Dan Taylor

Curriculum: Suzanne Brown, Cindy Schrantz

Members-at-Large: Ron Schueman, Fred Searing, Allan Zisner, Margo Heaps

Volunteer: Barbara Thelander Social: Peggy Schulz

SS/Communications: Peggy Randolph Membership:

CC Liaison: Neva Hansen Guests: Marie France Ganansia

1. The May 2021 meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by R. Tanner with a quorum present.
2. A motion to approve minutes from the April 12, 2021 meeting was proposed by S. Brown and seconded by D. Taylor. No consent agenda items were submitted for approval.
3. **President's Report – a.** Electronic registration - R. Tanner reported the fall NFLL registration number is **23397**. Members may enroll July 2.
4. **Treasurer's Report – G.** Master electronically submitted the financial report. Council members reviewed the report.
5. **Committee Reports – a.** Cindy Schrantz reported for Curriculum Committee. The link to summer classes is on the NFLL website. C. Schrantz thanked A. Zisner and Jennifer Wong for their work on the schedule. Summer semester begins June 4 (although some classes such as biking group begin earlier), and ends August 4, 2021. S. Brown added that some classes may extend beyond the MCC calendar since classes are online. Beginning the week of June 4, weekly emails will be sent to current NFLL members with information and class links. Requests for fall proposals will also be sent; there are a number of different topics for fall semester. C. Schrantz added that around the end of July or first of August, Curriculum Committee will be sending out press releases. R. Tanner asked to whom press releases would be sent. C. Schrantz mentioned various publications such as, *Mesa Independent*, and Gilbert newspapers. R. Tanner liked the idea.
6. **MCC Liaison Report – N.** Hansen reported MCC in-person classes are still following CDC guidelines.

7. Old Business – a) P. Randolph reported on ProClass pricing. The fee has risen each year, and she has complained to customer service. We have a new contact at ProClass who told P. Randolph that in the past NFLL received a discount; the current price increase is to get us up to par. The current price will be good for three (3) years. S. Brown added we may wish to explore other programs such as ActiveNet that other organizations use, but wait until after fall semester. P. Randolph agreed it is a good idea to look at other packages. N. Hansen added that some city websites use ActiveNet, and suggested if we make a change we do it in the spring versus fall. S. Brown encouraged Council members to check out the City of Gilbert website, look at classes offered, and determine if it is user friendly. M. Heaps asked how committed to change NFLL is. P. Randolph added that the annual contract expires May or June. N. Hansen confirmed it expires in May. **b)** R. Tanner repeated the need for a Membership committee chair. M. Heaps asked if there was a current committee member who could take over that position. B. Thelander stressed the need for a job description. D. Grogan added that committee members M. Boehlen and M. McGonigle have offered to train/help the new Chair. R. Tanner will check with M. Boehlen. **c)** D. Taylor reported on a proposed \$10,000 donation to the MCC Endowment Fund. NFLL started the discussion concerning the reserve account, and tax deductible donations to scholarship funds before the pandemic. The sticking point for some members was the ability to choose the scholarship recipients. D. Taylor explained that NFLL budgets \$3,000 each year for three (3) student scholarships. The NFLL Scholarship Committee reviews student applications, and selects scholarship recipients. Currently NFLL members can donate additional monies directly to New Frontiers for scholarships, but donations are not tax deductible. D. Taylor added that NFLL has \$45,000 sitting in reserves; we could donate \$10,000 to MCC Endowment Fund. This would 1) allow NFLL members a new avenue for tax deductible scholarship donations, and 2) strengthen our partnership with MCC. R. Tanner added that he had communicated with Christo at MCC, and NFLL would be able to choose scholarship recipients for a \$100. processing fee. C. Schrantz asked who chooses the recipients if not the NFLL committee. It was suggested scholarships are needs based. D. Taylor added that the \$10,000 would earn about \$200. interest a year, and the account will grow even if we do not add money. D. Taylor thinks it is a good way to grow our money. R. Tanner agreed and clarified that the \$10,000 amount will stay fixed, and NFLL benefits 1-2% annually. B. Thelander added that we have discussed this in the past; she is not comfortable losing control of \$10,000 and needs to see something in writing. R. Tanner has correspondence with Christo that he will forward to Council members. F. Searing suggested moving the \$10,000 to the current budgeted \$3,000 scholarship fund and award more scholarships. D. Grogan stated that NFLL cannot move money from the reserve account to the scholarship account. P. Schulz added that she keeps hearing different things, and chooses to vote no on the issue. D. Grogan added that NFLL money in the reserve account fund is not earning interest, and if we move \$10,000 to the MCC Endowment Fund it will earn interest. D. Taylor added that money earned above the \$10,000 could be used for scholarships. B. Thelander suggested tabling the discussion. D. Taylor is hesitant to table the discussion since it has been ongoing for years. He suggested we invite Christo to a meeting and ask him to explain the MCC Endowment Fund to us. B. Thelander asked for an in-person meeting. S. Brown asked if there is a hurry to make a decision. D. Taylor explained there is no hurry, but we have discussed this for a while. S. Brown agreed we should have Christo come to a meeting. R. Tanner will invite Christo to a meeting in the next 2-3 weeks, and

invite the Council members. B. Dukelow asked that future correspondence with Christo be forwarded to all Council members, and added that he does not want to become part of a bureaucracy.

8. New Business – a) covered in Old Business. **b)** NFLL Membership rate. R. Tanner reported a member wished to join NFLL early, so we need to clarify the rate. D. Taylor motioned we charge a \$60 fee for the 2021-22 year. F. Searing asked if we could discuss the motion. He suggested a flat rate for all types of memberships versus current full year and half year options. B. Thelander cautioned that we are reducing income without seeing a yearly budget. C. Schrantz added that ASU adult education charges a fee for each semester and a fee for each class. She added that currently NFLL fee structure is confusing for new members – when does membership begin. M. Heaps added that NFLL membership is renewable each July, and agrees with a flat fee to keep it simple. R. Tanner added that the \$60 fee was in response to CoVid and the lack of in person classes, and currently the budget meets our needs. S. Brown added that since NFLL does not pay instructors, our membership rates can be low. B. Dukelow agreed that we have instructors, some retired college professors, who work without a stipend because it is a different type of teaching/learning. R. Tanner clarified that there are two issues – flat fee and semester fee. D. Taylor amended his original motion to charge a \$60 flat fee for NFLL membership in the 2021-22 year. D. Grogan seconded the motion. All approved. **c)** Rate increase for E. Espinosa suggested by M. Ganansia. Discussion ensued about current pay, number of issues, and rationale. Currently, E. Espinosa is paid \$750 for designing the five yearly NFLL newsletter issues. She has not asked for a raise. B. Thelander asked about the going rate for graphic designers. N. Hansen sent a link with salaries she refers to for hiring purposes. B. Thelander and M. Ganansia will get together with E. Espinosa and discuss. D. Grogan asked Council to look at item “d” regarding the need for a graphic designer for a NFLL flyer. She asked if that could be part of the upcoming discussion with E. Espinosa.

9. Discussion – R. Tanner asked for a committee to develop a strategic plan and look to the future of NFLL. D. Grogan is hesitant to start another committee when we still have vacancies in existing committees, and suggested we wait until after the fall membership increase. Also, S. Brown and C. Schrantz are working with Curriculum Committee to market NFLL, so others could join forces with them. C. Schrantz asked if NFLL has a strategic plan. R. Tanner stated it is on the website, and he will send out a copy.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:39. The next NF Council meeting is **TBD**. *After R. Tanner sets up a meeting with Christo from MCC, he will schedule a follow-up Council meeting in June or July.* Minutes respectfully submitted by D. Grogan.