

CCACE Advisory Committee Meeting



Concord Carlisle
Adult & Community Education

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CCACE Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday, March 3, 2023 @ 11:00 am

Zoom link below

Present: John Ballantine, Paula Casey, Kim Kossman, Barbara Magee, Alison Pray, Steve Reznek, Jill Weintraub, Sara Wilson

1. January 27, 2023 minutes approved.
2. Registration and budget numbers for FY23
 - a. Numbers continue to look strong as we continue to receive more registrations. We continue to have very few cancellations among Adult Ed classes.
 - b. Our IMSCC registrations have continued to grow, coming close to pre-pandemic numbers. At this point in the year we do not expect too many more new registrations.
 - c. We had a great class over winter break with 22 students and another 14 students started an afterschool class this past week.
 - d. With the anticipated credit card receipts that have not yet been posted included, our budget is in a healthy place.
3. Program updates & spring programs:
 - o Adult & Continuing Education – Catalogs should start arriving in homes this weekend!
 - We are encouraging people to get outdoors this spring, with an assortment of fitness walks, forest bathing, haiku walks, birding walks, hiking and more. We added another section of Caregiver/Grandparent CPR & First Aid due to popular demand. We also have 3 more Village University classes starting this spring.
 - ELL – We are starting to plan for the summer and will likely offering an abbreviated 6-week semester again. We are figuring out staffing and who can work over the summer. We know we will need to hire an instructor for the fall as one of the instructors will not be able to continue with us so the hope is that this new instructor can fill in over the summer too.
 - Parent Ed – We have 4 more sessions this spring: Building Resilience and Managing Big Emotions, Your Teen & Money, Handling Gender-Neutral Pronouns with Style, How to Talk to your Adolescent About Healthy Eating & Weight. Jill & Stefanie will take a step back now to reach out to the PTG groups and other community partners to find out more of what parents want to see. FY23 was an experiment – the transition to taking on these programs happened quickly with no preparation so Stefanie did a fantastic job of pulling together programs on all topics to just see what the reaction was to each. Now we will take a step back so we can approach year 2 with a more strategic plan in place.
 - Armchair Travel – Although Claudia couldn't be here today she sent notes that Armchair Travel continues to be a success with 40+ participants at each session on zoom. She would like to keep the programs on zoom since they have been so successful in this format. Claudia also expressed interest in continuing to organize the AT programs even though her term is coming to an end. Steve has been working with Claudia as well this year and this will allow them to continue together, while also possibly bringing in a new member to assist.
 - b. Drivers Ed – Not only have the enrollment numbers in current classes been strong, but driving lessons are booked 3 weeks out. We are considering the need to hire another instructor as we could use help particularly on 1-2 afternoons per week and in the morning hours. We continue

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- to receive a number of inquiries from adult students looking for lessons and do not currently have instructors who are able to work with their availability.
- c. IMSCC – One of our piano teachers informed us that she would be moving out of state and we were lucky enough to find another teacher with the same availability making for an easy transition for the students involved. The new teacher just started this week.
4. Can We Talk 2023-2024
 - a. We briefly revisited the court system idea that we had been trying to develop for the past year to see if there was still interest -
 - o Understanding the Massachusetts Court System
With any luck, most people manage to avoid interacting with the justice system. But whether you've been called to jury duty or read about a court case and wondered how it turned out the way it did, this series will give you a better understanding of just how the Massachusetts court system works. The Honorable Tejal Mehta and the Honorable John Cratsley have years of experience and knowledge to enlighten and inform you. Each week a different topic will be presented.
 1. Week one – Court Structure. Learn how our courts are structured, and the difference between lower and higher courts
 2. Week two – The American Jury. What does “a jury of one’s peers” really mean? What are the expectations?
 3. Week three – Sentencing. Better understand just what goes into deciding how long someone will spend behind bars.
 4. Week four – Newsy Cases. Hear about the unusual, interesting, and downright strange cases that have made it into our court system.
 - b. Committee members seemed more interested in shifting to look at the issue of stress and students. Aspects that were discussed included
 - o Snow plow parents vs helicopter parents
 - o Anxiety/depression and the link to social media – Sara just read an article in NY Magazine
 - o The issue of regression of independence in children
 - o How socioeconomic situations factor in to this and similarly how the pressures look differently in parts of the country – for example in some areas the expectation is still that students will enroll in their local state university vs looking at a variety of programs and how that affects a student’s stress levels
 - o Work/life balance – how we achieve this at various ages, including our teens – students who are overscheduled.
 - o There was a lot of interest in continuing to explore this very broad topic.
 - Jill suggested a possible connection with our Parent Education programs and Can We Talk, and possibly using this as a way to more formally introduce the Parent Education programs to the community.
 - Again, we would have to decide where to focus and the format of the program. A topic like work/life balance may be a broad topic with follow up sessions for different segments – students, working adults, etc
 - Jill tasked the committee with continuing to think about this topic and possibly share articles if they find some and we will resume the brainstorming at the next meeting.
5. Website updates
 - a. Jill shared the mock up of the new homepage and everyone was pleased with the look.
 6. Advisory Committee update
 - a. Polly Meyer from Concord, who was a former Center for Parents & Teachers committee member is very interested in joining our committee. She will join our April meeting so everyone can meet and she can see what our meetings are like.

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- b. We need 2-3 Carlisle residents to join our committee for FY24! Jill is sending an announcement to the Carlisle Mosquito and also brought this to Sara & Alison's attention, in the hopes they might have recommendations. She will speak with Carol and John as well. She has pulled a list from the last 2 years of Carlisle residents who have participated in multiple classes, but will hold on to this to see what the response is like from the Mosquito first.
 - 7. Our next meeting is April 28th at 11am.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:53 am.