Minutes 5-23-24:

**Attending**: Bob Z, Jenny, Ruth Mitman, Errol, Kim, Tom Gworek,  Beth, Ann Winshop;

Kim: Financial report; exchanges with John Waveris explaining Bots influence on the number of hits;

Curriculum Committee clarification of John Dixon’s decision not to serve as co-chair.

Beth: He is head of Seabury at Home and being co-chair would be too much. He still wants to be a part of the Curriculum Committee … at large. He is going to do a program in the Spring.

Jenny: Can people be nominated on the day of the annual meeting

Errol: Yes. We did that last year. I don’t know if it was legal, but we did it.

Kim: Legality is a concern but why exalt form over substance if there is a suggestion that can be put on the floor and then we can retrofit?

Tom: I doubt anyone would call an error if we were lucky enough to recruit someone.

Beth: We don’t want anyone who volunteers to be one who is without experience.

Tom: We are not going to dissolve without a co-chair. I’d like Beth to have someone she could lean on.

Jenny: There are some new people to ALP who are not ready to commit yet but seem interested.

**Treasurer’s Report**:

Kim: We appear to be $7k or $8k better off than last year.

Beth: We haven’t paid our speakers until December.

Jenny: We have 15 more members and we had dues increase.

Errol: If Jenny is paid up through April, its not on the report.

Jenny: I am paid for both March and April. March is heavy but April is half of that. I am caught up.

Errol: Your total at this point is quite a bit less. About $4k less now than at this time last year.

Bob Z and Errol: Dues are about $5k more than last year, but I haven’t had a chance to review this.

Kim: I am dependent on Errol’s oversight and seasoned perspective for the efficacy of Jenny’s report. Ann has commented, subtley, the business of the board needed better perspective. I am relying on information I can endorse but am without the means to perform anything of substantive  value.

Errol: Lets discuss this off line.

**Webmaster’s Report**: Another good month on the Website. I sent a summary. We had 358 visitors in April, 27% ahead of last year. Excluding robots we were almost double last year. Fascillitated Purchases of 275 through the website is up 15% from last year and has taken a lot of pressure off administrative. We had massive visitations on May 1st and May 11th from Bots scouring our system. Automated systems that goes page to page looking for what’s there – looking for email addresses; but the majority come from AI – to take pictures and print for probability studies at the heart of AI studies.

Kim: is there a screen to filter out bots?

Bob; It would be laborious. Only for cases where you are asking for something. But it doesn’t affect us much. John can identify the Bots and tell us the number of real users. We did have new Bots that look like real visitors. Some of the media are asking the Bots to pay for use. This may explain why the Bots are attempting to camouflage when they didn’t use to care.

Jenny: Our Website crashed. I was losing my mind.

Kim: The assurance that John can separate Bots from genuine request.

Errol: John has to go through a process with our credit card, in order to assure he is sufficiently protective against fraudulent usage. He has to go through every three months. He did it. He wont have to do as much next time. It is for “point of sales” use. Involved 400 pages and too his entire weekend. That was for us that he had to go through this.

**Annual Luncheon**:

Kim: The ALP horn’s schedule has been received by everyone. Davida had concern about the timing for the Speaker. Listed as unfolding at 10:30. She seemed to be asking for some sort of guarantee that it go off at 10:30 exactly. I didn’t respond because I worried about coming off  sarcastic.

Ann: We just have to be sure to be upstairs for the lunch by 12:15.

Kim: What expectation from Renee at the luncheon.

Ann: She should speak.

Errol: She should welcome everybody.

Kim: As a courtesy Ishould send an email setting forth our expectations.

Ann: She could say: Seabury enjoys the partnership with ALP.

Bob Z: I am guessing she likes ALP because it is a recruiting tool The more she sees it that way, then her comment about Seabury’s activities would be appropriate.

Jenny: I need more people to sign up to help. Dougla has volunteered.

Ann: We need greeters at front door. If we have rain, we need coat racks.

Jenny: We are now only at 17. But I still have to pick up mail. I will send out a reminder.