

## 5CLIR Council Meeting

August 12, 2004

Minutes

Next Meeting: September 9, 2004

Present: Jono Hanke, Dorothy Gorra, June Guild, Elizabeth Armstrong, Peg Bedell, Hy Edelstein, John Gaustad, Pat Keating, Sheila Klem, Gillian Morbey, David Moriarty, Dottie Rosenthal, Committees: Hal Stubbs, Joice Gare, Jean Curran, Eleanor Shattuck, Ted Belsky, Harley Unger, Chuck Gillies.

President Jono Hanke welcomed newly elected Council members John Gaustad, Hy Edelstein, Dottie Rosenthal, Gillian Morbey and Pat Keating, as well as new Committee chairmen.

The minutes of the June 10 meeting were approved.

### Committee Reports:

Finance: June expects to give a year-end report (03-04) as well as a first quarter (04-05) report in October following the review by FiveColleges, Inc. of their fiscal year results.

Curriculum: Hal reported that two seminars had been cancelled due to under-enrollment. Three others with less than full enrollment are continuing with shortened schedules. All other seminars planned for the fall have healthy enrollments, many with waiting lists. The Opera Prep workshop has sixty participants.

Meetings: Joice reminded Council members of the picnic from noon to 4 p.m. at Look Park on September 10. Notices have gone out to members.

Membership: Jean reported that current figures show 228 full members, of which 26 are new. There are 9 associate members. Her committee will meet on August 31 to discuss plans for contacting new members and helping them feel welcome to the organization.

Volunteers: Dotty Gorra announced that twelve people have offered to serve as office volunteers should the need arise.

Summer programs: Gillian Morbey, speaking for the committee, discussed the success of the summer programs to date. They have had good attendance, though down from last summer. The trips to Hancock Shaker Village and Bertucci's were cancelled due to under-enrollment.

Publicity: Eleanor will contact the Daily Hampshire Gazette about running an article on LIR's fall program, including a list of seminars that can still accept registration.

Newsletter: Sheila and Eleanor need more articles for the upcoming issue which will be out by Labor Day. They would like articles highlighting members' summer activities. Deadlines for forthcoming issues are: August 13, October 15, December 10, February 11 and April 8 for the summer issue.

### Sub-Committees

Computer committee: Hy Edelstein recommends replacing the office computer, now five years old, with a Dell OptiPlex machine (memo attached) which, with ancillary equipment, will cost around \$1600. Jono and Hy will discuss the timing of acquiring new equipment, and the possible continued use of the existing equipment with Karen Tatro, office manager. Hy reported that the summer computer workshop drew 10-12 people, some of whom had not been able to attend the January workshop. He is considering offering a workshop on digital photography during the next winter break. Smith College has been very helpful in making their computer labs available for these workshops.

Webmaster: Hy acknowledged that the website had gotten very much out of date and he intends to update it soon. Dottie Rosenthal asked about the use of the website, pointing out that about 2/3 of the membership now has internet access. John Gaustad, Hal Stubbs and Eleanor Shattuck will be an ad hoc group to work with Hy in reviewing the website and considering ways to make it more useful to members. There was a suggestion that the October 28 moderators' meeting sponsored by the Curriculum Committee include a presentation on using the website in seminars.

Conversations: The plans for fall programs are in flux due to absence and illness of various people concerned.

Great Decisions: John Gaustad was welcomed to a leadership position of this important program, following the retirement of Ted Belsky.

Special Events: Dotty Gorra announced a bus trip, sponsored by the American Impressionists seminar, to the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, Connecticut, and nearby Essex, on Saturday October 16.

Old Business:

Chuck Gillies distributed a memo dated August 12 on "Slavery and Its Legacy" (attached) which is scheduled for early 2005. He was pleased to announce that Anthony Marx, Amherst College President, will be keynote speaker. Details are still tentative; the project is enthusiastically endorsed by Council.

EIN Conference. The regional conference in Portland Maine scheduled for late October has attracted interest from a number of council members. The budget will cover the registration fees of five representatives. Any number of people are welcome to attend at their own expense. Sheila and Eleanor plan to include some information about EIN (Elder Institute Network) and the conference in the next newsletter.

Annual Report: Chuck distributed the Annual Report for 2004 which he had compiled from reports submitted by officers and committee chairmen. In addition he has produced a 4-page condensed version of the report with color pictures which will be distributed to our college sponsors and other persons important to our continued good health. His fine work was greatly appreciated by all. He recommends that someone be appointed to take on the job of editing the annual report in the future; much of the production work was done by office staff.

Chuck then treated the Council to his power-point 5CLIR promotional presentation which will debut at a meeting September 8 with a UMass faculty group. While there were suggestions for improvement in later editions, all agreed that the presentation tells a compelling story, and again, we appreciated Chuck's good work.

Hampshire College Offer. Jono reviewed communications between LIR and Mr. Brongers of Hampshire College on the subject of our possible relationship to their new retirement housing development. As at earlier meetings, there were many neutral to negative comments from Council members about this relationship as it is currently understood by us. However, in order to accomplish our own goal of obtaining greater use of Hampshire College classroom space, we agreed that communications need to be continued. Jono reiterated his plan of more aggressively seeking out college classroom spaces on all campuses, while reminding us that formal negotiations must always be done by the office manager. Ted Belsky is endeavoring to seek out space at Mount Holyoke College, which is not hosting any seminars this fall.

Finally Dotty Gorra described the invitation by the Smith College Art Museum to LIR members to participate in a special art project later in August.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Armstrong, Secretary