

5CLIR Council Meeting

October 14, 2004

Minutes

Next Meeting: November 11, 2004

Present: Jono Hanke, Dotty Gorra, Elizabeth Armstrong, June Guild, Charlie Klem, Naomi Yanis, Peg Bedell, Sheila Klem, Gillian Morbey, Dottie Rosenthal, Jim Scott, Jean Curran, Eleanor Shattuck, Sheila Klem, Joice Gare, Mary Franks, Bob First, Chuck Gillies.

The minutes of September 9, 2004 were **approved** with a correction to the report about a possible copier purchase.

Notices: LIR member Lucy McAfee recently died. LIR members are invited to an Open House in honor of LIR member Ed Manwell's upcoming 100th birthday. (Dr. Manwell died later the same day as the council meeting.)

Committee Reports:

Finance: Treasurer June Guild presented several sets of financial reports following the close of the fiscal year and first quarter. The reports (attached) consist of:

- 1) Balance Sheet – previous year comparison for year ending 7/04.
- 2) Profit and Loss Actual vs .Budget for year ending 7/04.
- 3) Profit and Loss year to date comparison years July 2003 through June 2004.

Reports for the first quarter of 2004-05 were:

- 1) Balance sheet – previous year comparison as of 9/30/04
- 2) Profit and Loss year to date comparison July through September 2004
- 3) Prof and Loss Budget vs. Actual July through September 2004.

These reports were accepted for the file.

It was observed that the membership assistance fund is being well used; members will be encouraged to make more donations so that the fund is not depleted.

Curriculum:

- 1) Co-chair Jim announced the resignation of Hal Stubbs as co-chairman and recommended the appointment of Eleanor Shattuck to the position. Her appointment was **approved**.
- 2) The current moderators are invited to a reception on Thursday October 28 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Mt. Tom Room at Lathrop Easthampton. Members considering moderating are also invited to attend.
- 3) There are currently eleven or twelve proposals in hand for Spring '05. Many more are needed. Council members are requested to urge members of seminars they attend to consider submitting a proposal.
- 4) Jim recounted the recent meeting between Hampshire College Treasurer Johann Brongers and Jono Hanke and Elizabeth Armstrong which resulted in the idea of developing a workshop on environmental/planning concerns related to the proposed condo development in south Amherst. Jim will be following up with Mr. Brongers to explore LIR cooperation in a workshop or seminar with Hampshire College faculty and students.

Membership: Jean Curran reported that there are 232 paid full-time members of which 34 are new; in addition there are 23 associate level members. Karen Tatro has been diligent in contacting non-renewers to assess their reasons for not rejoining. Mostly the reasons given relate to health, travel and other interests. New members had been contacted with a personal invitation to the September picnic; about 10 new members attended. Jean's committee will host a reception for new members on Sunday Nov. 7 from 2-4 at Lathrop in Northampton. Officers and council members are invited to attend.

Meetings: Joice Gare gave a report (attached) on the picnic, which had about 105 attendees. She described the many chores necessary to provide a clean and usable picnic space and adequate cooking fires. Of the nine members of her committee, only five were present to help. In view of the physical work required and the costs associated with the picnic, she suggests we consider holding an indoor picnic at the new Elks building in Florence. Naomi and June will confer with Joice who will prepare a recommendation for Council to consider at the next meeting. It was agreed that the meetings committee would take care of the holiday party on December 5.

Volunteers: Karen will be out of the office the week of October 25 and a corps of volunteers has been recruited to cover office duties during that period.

January and Summer Programs: Bob First and Mary Franks described their plans for January 2005. State Representatives Peter Kocot and John Scibak will speak on January 14 at 2 p.m. at Smith College on “Critical Issues Facing the State in 2005”. The memorial program will be January 20 at Amherst. Dotty Gorra, as vice-president, is preparing a suitable commemoration of the many LIR members who have died in the past year. Another January program will be a visit to the Eric Carle Museum, including lunch. Serving as a January program, but more especially as a kick-off for the Slavery program, on Saturday January 22, Amherst College president Marx will be keynote speaker.

Newsletter: deadline is October 15. There will be reports on new members, a list of recent deaths, some information on the Hampshire College project, and the proposed January programs.

Sub-committees: Hy Edelstein has worked with Karen and Smith College to determine the appropriate computer for the office. Arrangements for its purchase are underway. Council **approved** the appropriation from capital funds to the operating budget for its purchase, approximately \$1600.

Conversations: A program presented by Ginny Senders is planned for October 21. There may also be a program in the Spring given by Ed Golden.

Great Decisions: John Gaustad is heading up the committee which has recently received advance information to use in planning the series.

Special Events: the bus trip to Old Lyme for Saturday October 16 is fully subscribed. There will be 44 people making the trip.

Old Business.

EIN – Dottie Rosenthal, Eleanor Shattuck and Chuck Gillies are attending. Bob Romer will be there for the portion that includes his presentation. Charlie Klem is distributing a list of suggested questions to the delegation covering many issues of interest to our LIR. It is hoped that there will be some informal opportunities to gather useful information and ideas from the other participants.

Slavery program – Chuck distributed the latest version of the schedule (attached). He stressed that some parts of it are still tentative. He has received great support from all five campuses of 5CLIR as well as financial support. Five Colleges Inc. (\$500) and Smith College (\$3000) were mentioned. An application for funding has recently been sent to the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts. This application shows a budget of \$31,000, which includes donated services. Chuck hopes that funds will allow renting a bus to take LIR members to the two programs being held in Springfield. He reiterated that the program is free and open to the public.

Copier: the task force is still evaluating various options.

New Business:

Dotty Gorra brought up the question of reimbursement to seminar moderators of the out-of-pocket costs for video rentals used in seminars. All agreed that this was an expense to be shared among the members of the particular seminar, not by the organization. Materials or other fees associated with participation in a seminar should be described clearly in the catalog listing for the course.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Armstrong, Secretary