

**5CLIR Council Meeting  
October 12, 2006  
MINUTES**

*Next Meeting: November 9, 2006*

Present: Arnold Friedmann, Mary Franks, June Guild, Charles Klem, Joyce Mazur, Hy Edelstein, John Gaustad, Joan Hastings, Wil Hastings, Ruth Hooke, Dorothy Rosenthal, Nina Scott, Eleanor Shattuck, Marybeth Bridegam, Charles Gillies, Sheila Klem, Sara Wright, Callie Kendall.

President Arnold Friedmann called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes of the September meeting were accepted after two changes were required. The Curriculum Committee has discussed new seminars with reference to a list of past moderators and topics. A typographical error altered the meaning of "fund-raising."

Remarks by the President: Arnold announced that the presentation on the Hampshire College project will be given to Council and some guests at the December Council meeting. Because of the need for a larger space, the meeting will be held at the Amherst College Alumni House - December 14 at 2:30. Committee chairs are asked to submit their reports to the President in writing. Also, a small party will be held for Callie Kendall and her fiancé, Tom Orszak, at that meeting.

The problem concerning the library cards for LIR members has been solved. Any LIR member can go to any of the Five College libraries to register. Arnold was commended for all his effort to solve this problem for the convenience of the membership. Arnold also stated that, in the unlikely event that a member does not pay for a lost book, LIR will take responsibility for the cost.

Arnold has appointed Eleanor Shattuck to head a committee to formulate a newsletter policy.

Arnold spoke about the fall reception last Friday at Hickory Ridge Golf Club. The small group enjoyed the setting and the view as well as conversations with friends. Arnold commended Kathy Hazen and the Meetings Committee for making the arrangements.

Vice-president's report: As an ex officio member of all committees, Mary Frank said that she continues to attend many meetings each month.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CURRICULUM** - Co-chair Sheila Klem announced that the spring seminar proposals are coming in slowly. The committee has approved seven seminars and they have seven more promised. A number of potential moderators are serving as moderators now, and others are extremely busy at the moment. The

committee plans more publicity about this issue - an email to the membership, an article in the newsletter, and conversation about the matter in seminars.

The Moderators' Reception will be held on October 27 at the Easthampton Lathrop, and Meet the Moderators will take place on November 19 in the Davis Ballroom at Smith College.

Curriculum committee is working now on the spring schedule. Consideration is being given to combining the spring Meet the Moderators with the Annual Meeting, possibly in early June 2007.

The calendar for the year will be available soon.

FINANCE - Chair, June Guild, spoke briefly about an amended Profit and Loss statement, emphasizing a return of \$2692 to Smith College from the Slavery/Legacy Reserve. June also distributed a Balance Sheet and explained the items. (Copies for file.)

JANUARY AND SUMMER PROGRAMS - Vice-president Mary Franks announced that the committee is working diligently on the January offerings. In addition to the annual Memorial Service the committee is planning a photography workshop, a political program, a museum trip, and a theater trip. The detailed program will be available soon.

LEARNING THROUGH COMMUNITY - Chair, Joan Hastings, announced receipt of a \$7500 grant through Highland Valley Elder Services for the Aging Creatively Conference scheduled for April 2007. The money will help to subsidize ticket prices and workshop leaders. Working with Joan on the conference are Arnold Friedmann, Mary Franks, and Eleanor Shattuck. Others on the committee are Wil Hastings, Frank Reilly, Barbara Reitt, Peter Reitt, Barbara Snoek, and Diedrich Snoek. Robyn Cutler of Five Colleges, Inc. is working on the brochure, with further assistance coming from Carol Ayers, a media consultant with alumni/ae magazines.

Joan indicated that the most popular volunteer opportunity for LIR members, the Treehouse Project, has unfortunately had to be discontinued.

MEETINGS - President Friedmann spoke about the recent Fall Reception at the Hickory Hill Golf Club, and Arnold again thanked Kathy Hazen and the Meetings Committee for making the party arrangements.

MEMBERSHIP -- Co-chair Sara Wright reminded Council of the Reception for New Members, to be held at Northampton Lathrop on October 13. She hoped that new co-chair, Pat Keating, might be able to attend.

Realizing that new members are important to LIR, the committee has considered the possibility of having the event for new members as the first social occasion of the fall semester in future years. It was also suggested that perhaps there could be an Encore Presentation just for new members.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS** -- Chair, Marybeth Bridegam, listed the numbers of people attending the fall series of special programs, with attendance in each group well over a dozen LIR members. The Encore presentations by Dorothy Rosenthal and Chuck Gillies drew a crowd of forty members. The Italian Conversation group was canceled because of the small number of interested speakers of Italian, and the Opera Workshop was canceled because of Peg Bedell's illness.

An article in the October newsletter explained the difference between the Travel Interest Group and the Trip Interest Group. One addresses trips that LIR members have made in the past, and the other plans short trips in the future. There is a possibility of having another article in the newsletter about Special Programs as a whole, since there are still misconceptions about this committee and its work.

**TECHNOLOGY** -- President Friedmann announced that Jim Scott is now in charge of the equipment that seminar members sign out as presentation aids.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** - Co-chair Chuck Gillies announced that three more LIR members have been added to the committee - Nancy Frazier, Joice Gare, and Ruth Miller. The committee will be calling the 51 new LIR members to find out what motivated them to join LIR.

The committee plans to join two Chambers of Commerce, the ones in Amherst and in Northampton. Perhaps there are suggestions about other organizations to join. Chuck pointed out the availability of a PowerPoint presentation about LIR. At their next meeting the committee will discuss newspaper publicity for LIR events that are open to the public.

**DATA SUMMARY:** Chuck Gillies distributed a detailed data report with significant graphs about membership statistics since the founding of 5CLIR (copy for file). He emphasized the importance of paying attention to membership changes, especially the losses in membership. Our membership is getting older now and it is essential to increase the number of younger members.

President Friedmann thanked Chuck for creating the impressive and useful data report.

**OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT:** Callie Kendall spoke about a great deal of seminar activity, including people dropping out of seminars. Some members have chosen to cancel their membership or opt for associate membership when they cannot get into the seminar of their choice. Callie has also had to relocate some seminars at the last minute, as well as some special programs.

Featured in the next newsletter will be the Special Programs Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Report on bylaws -- Wil Hastings led a discussion about by-law procedures, referring to a document prepared by the Ad Hoc Committee on 5CLIR Membership Voting -- Wil Hastings, Chuck Gillies, Dorothy Rosenthal, and

Naomi Yanis. Wil requested that the document, especially Exhibit A, be included in the official minutes (reference: Memorandum dated October 6, 2006, distributed to Council by email on October 11, 2006. Copy for file.)

Council discussion focused on the ad hoc committee's Exhibit A about Membership Meetings, with sub-topics: Quorum, Voting Majorities, and Procedures for By-Law Amendments. Special attention was paid to the role of Officers and Council in By-law procedures. There was a question about the two-thirds rule having to do with whether or not the Past President is to be included in the voting, since this matter is unclear at present.

The issue of a quorum for the Annual Meeting received particular attention, since it is important to have a good number of members present for the voting. Although other aspects of the Memorandum were not voted on, it was considered essential to clarify the issue of whether or not to combine the Annual Meeting and the spring Meet the Moderators.

**MOTION PASSED:** In spring 2007 the Annual Meeting and Meet the Moderators will be combined, not necessarily including a meal.

Wil Hastings will send another memorandum taking today's Council discussion into consideration.

Report of contacts with other LLIs -- Council members Dorothy Rosenthal and Eleanor Shattuck have set up a lunch meeting with three neighboring Lifelong Learning Institutes - Worcester, Springfield, and Berkshires. The groups will share information about their programs, possibly consider combining some projects, and prepare for the Potsdam EIN Conference. Contacts have also been made with groups at Greenfield Community College, Westfield, and UMass Continuing Education.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Council member Nina Scott spoke about plans for reprinting the cookbook, *Around the Jewish Table*. The committee is looking for 25 commitments by October 31. As before, proceeds will go to the LIR scholarship fund. Nina also mentioned an article in *Hampshire Life* about last spring's seminar, *Around the Jewish Table*. She also called attention to the interesting interview with LIR member Susi Friedmann in the recent *Atkins* newsletter.

There was a reminder of the Dreyfus meeting at JCA and an exhibit by LIR member Bob Romer at Mount Holyoke Museum.

**PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS:** Arnold reminded Council that Marie Hess will facilitate some details of the spring 2007 Prague trip. Marie will be invited to the December Council meeting.

He announced that Nina Scott will continue to provide her excellent profiles of LIR members for the newsletter, and he thanked Nina for accepting the assignment as chair of the Nominating Committee for the next slate of officers.

Arnold is looking for someone to head a committee to plan a celebrative dinner for the 5CLIR twentieth anniversary in 2008.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Mazur