

**5CLIR Council Meeting**  
**November 9, 2006**  
**MINUTES**

Next Meeting: December 14, 2006

N.B. Meeting will be held at Amherst College Alumni House

*Present:* Arnold Friedmann, Mary Franks, Dorothy Gorra, June Guild, Charles Klem, Hy Edelstein, John Gaustad, Wil Hastings, Ruth Hooke, Peter Reitt, Dorothy Rosenthal, Nina Scott, Eleanor Shattuck, Sheila Klem, Barbara Reitt, Gail Gaustad, Katharine Hazen, Sara Wright, Marybeth Bridegam, Charles Gillies.

President Arnold Friedmann called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m.

*Minutes of the October meeting* were accepted as distributed after Treasurer June Guild requested a change in figures in the Finance Committee report. The figure for the unused money in the Slavery/Legacy account that 5CLIR returned to Smith College should read, \$1,332.52, with a total loss of \$2,692.81 last year.

*Remarks by the President:* Arnold congratulated Curriculum Committee for offering twenty new seminars for the spring semester, and he commended the organizers of the recent gathering of lifelong-learning groups from Berkshire, Springfield, and Worcester.

Arnold reminded Council of the change in location for the December 14th meeting - Amherst College Alumni House. At that time a group from Hampshire College will make their presentation about the proposed housing complex. Arnold again requested that committee chairs submit their reports in writing, and the reports will be distributed electronically. Arnold also said that 5CLIR is exploring a connection with ACTV, possibly a workshop for members interested in television.

*Vice-president's report:* Mary Franks continues to find the committees' deliberations most impressive.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**CURRICULUM** - Co-chair Bobbie Reitt announced that the Committee will be offering twenty seminars for spring semester, covering a wide range of subjects. Meet the Moderators will be held on November 19 at the Davis Ballroom at Smith College. The large second floor of the building will provide plenty of room for socializing. Besides the moderators of spring seminars, representatives of Great

Decisions and Special Programs will have a table, and a good collection of signs will make everything very convenient for members attending the event.

Co-chair Sheila Klem spoke about the Moderators' Reception, which was held at Easthampton Lathrop. About fifty people attended the pleasant event and enjoyed the social hour and conversation. A suggestion has been made about possibly having small groups in the future, with a balance of socializing and business. Sheila commented that the event is especially helpful for new moderators.

**FINANCE** -- No report.

**JANUARY PROGRAMS** - Co-chair Gail Gaustad spoke about the ambitious program planned by her committee for the winter break -- a digital photography workshop, a tour of the Amherst College Natural History Museum, a program on political issues, a theater matinee, some open-hearth cooking, and the annual Memorial Service. Details are included in the packet that will be distributed at Meet the Moderators on November 19.

**LEARNING THROUGH COMMUNITY** -- Chair, Joan Hastings, sent a report by email, since she could not be present at the Council meeting (copy for file). In the report Joan addresses some problems that have surfaced in maintaining vigorous volunteer projects. Because the committee believes that some of the problem stems from the large amount of data available to members before the fall semester began, they have decided to hold an information event after the spring semester begins in February. Perhaps by then members will have a better idea about their interests and their available time. Some of the same projects will be offered as well as some new ones. The February event will clarify programs and procedures.

**MEETINGS** -- Chair, Kathy Hazen, previewed plans for the November 19th event scheduled at Davis Ballroom. The food and wine are ordered, and decorations are being prepared by Sally Lawton.

**MEMBERSHIP** - Co-chair Sara Wright spoke about the New Member Reception at Northampton Lathrop on October 13, attended by 34 new members, a convivial event that lasted longer than planned because everyone was having a good time.

Looking ahead, the committee is considering an earlier date for this autumn reception for new members next year, perhaps on the Friday morning before the fall seminars begin, possibly with Council members attending as well.

The committee is considering having its members serve as contact persons for the new members. They will also contribute to the data on why some members did not renew for this year. The names and telephone numbers of committee members on the 5CLIR website will make it more convenient for folks to call with their questions about the organization.

Council had a brief discussion about the 5CLIR dues structure, which may be confusing to new members.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS** -- Chair, Marybeth Bridegam, announced that the new schedule of programs is ready -- ongoing programs from fall semester as well as other offerings such as resumed bridge lessons and a series of PBS programs on Africa. The Green Pages schedule will be included in the November 19th packet.

There was considerable discussion about the need for a master calendar of Special Programs as well as the Curriculum Committee's schedule and possibly a calendar with Council events. Webmaster Hy Edelstein said that a complete master calendar is on the 5CLIR website. The newsletters and news sheets include notices of events, and e-mail reminders are sent as well. Only about 45 members do not have e-mail.

**TECHNOLOGY** -- Chair, Peter Reitt, reminded Council that Hy Edelstein and Bill Williams are in charge of the website. Committee chairs need to be in touch with Hy and Bill with pertinent news. Pete also announced that Nina Scott is a new member of the committee.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS** - Co-chair Chuck Gillies supplemented his spoken report with a handout (copy for file). Chuck focused on Nina Scott's suggestion to volunteer for the next WFCR fundraising drives in exchange for some free publicity for our organization. A team comprised of public relations committee and Council members will work on the telephones at the WFCR fund drives in December and February, possibly during morning "drive time." We will offer prizes to two contributors -- a free half-year membership in 5CLIR -- during a semester of each prize-winner's own choosing.

**MOTION WAS PASSED.**

Chuck also said that the public relations committee has decided not to join Chambers of Commerce because of cost. The committee is now planning to develop a Speakers' Bureau, possibly based on Encore Presentations.

**OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT** - Vice-president Mary Franks gave the report in Callie Kendall's absence.

-- The spring catalog is being prepared now and will be available at the November 19th event.

-- The Smith College Poetry Center will be available for the seminar on Poets Laureate.

-- The UMass Continuing Education room is also booked for a seminar.

-- While Callie is away in January, Laura Cranshaw, Sally Edelstein, and Gillian Morbey will fill in at the office. Mary Franks and Dorothy Gorra will also be available to help.

*OLD BUSINESS --*

Conference on Aging Creatively -- Wil Hastings, a member of the conference committee said that a preliminary flyer will be available in the Meet the Moderators envelope. Wil also clarified some confusion about the conference grant from Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES), which was obtained through an open competition at the invitation of HVES. The conference will provide 40 free slots as part of community outreach. Anyone with questions about this matter can telephone Joan Hastings, conference chair.

Bylaw changes revisited -- Wil Hastings led a discussion as a follow-up to the October Council meeting. With reference to Wil's earlier draft, a suggested change in wording adds "two-thirds present and voting" to the section on Council approval.

MOTION PASSED. Please note: The entire amended text is included as an addendum to these minutes.

Information about any bylaw changes will be given to the entire membership in plenty of time for the Annual Meeting.

*LLI Meeting* - Dorothy Rosenthal and Eleanor Shattuck reported on the meeting that a group of 5CLIR officers and Council members held with three neighboring Lifelong Learning Institutes - Berkshire, Springfield, and Worcester. The other groups are quite large -- with Berkshire at 800 members and Worcester at 450. It was mentioned that Worcester is the only one of those groups that does peer-learning. Attendees from all the groups appreciated the opportunity to converse about common interests. Dottie and Eleanor will distribute a more complete report to Council electronically and will have a brief report in the newsletter.

As delegates to the EIN Potsdam Conference in the spring, Dottie and Eleanor will be preparing to contribute to that event.

Associate Member issue revisited -- Chuck Gillies reminded Council that he is working on this unresolved issue. Others on the committee are Mary Franks, Dorothy Gorra, Barbara Reitt, and Sara Wright, as well as some longtime members perhaps.

*NEW BUSINESS* -- President Arnold Friedmann reminded Council of the Learning Through Community report submitted by chair, Joan Hastings.

*PRESIDENT'S CLOSING REMARKS* -- Arnold congratulated the Conference on Aging committee for organizing their work so efficiently.

Arnold reminded Council that the December Council meeting will be held at Amherst College Alumni House. The major business will be the presentation by officials from Hampshire College. The meeting will also include a celebration in honor of the January marriage of Callie Kendall and Tom Orszak. Arnold has requested that committee chairs submit their December reports by email to the office, since there will not be time at the Council meeting for spoken reports.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Mazur, Secretary

*ADDENDUM:* Submitted for minutes electronically by Wil Hastings.

Proposed amendment to the Bylaws of 5CLIR approved unanimously by Council on November 9, 2006, for submission to the members at the 2007 Annual Meeting.

Article V of the existing Bylaws, now entitled "AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS" would be amended by substituting therefor in its entirety the following new Article V :

"V. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.

"A. Quorum. A simple majority of 5CLIR members entitled to vote (all members other than Associate Members) shall constitute a quorum for any membership meeting, general or special. Any meeting lacking a quorum shall automatically be deemed adjourned until such date within 60 days as may be specified by the 5CLIR Officer presiding at the time.

"B. Voting Majorities. Except for amendments to these bylaws and as otherwise required by Roberts Rules of Order (see Article VI) all motions shall require a simple majority of those members present and voting to be adopted.

"C. Procedures for Bylaw Amendments.

"1. Any member of 5CLIR may submit a proposed amendment to these bylaws in writing at any regular meeting of the Council, or at a special meeting called for such purpose, provided that such submission occurs no later than 90 days prior to the membership meeting at which it is supposed to be voted on. If, but only if, such proposed amendment is approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of Council members present and voting, it shall be submitted to a vote at the next general meeting of the membership or at a special meeting of the membership called by the Council for such purpose.

"2. If so approved, the proposed amendment, together with such related or explanatory material as the Council deems appropriate, shall be sent to all members at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which action on it is to be taken. If the motion to so amend the bylaws, as originally proposed or as properly amended or modified at the meeting, receives the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting, it shall become part of these bylaws."

And the article following the above article shall be renumbered Article VI.