

**5CLIR Council Meeting
June 14, 2007**

MINUTES

Next Meeting: August 9, 2007

Present: Arnold Friedmann, Dorothy Gorra, June Guild, Charles Klem, Joyce Mazur, Hy Edelstein, John Gaustad, Peter Reitt, Dorothy Rosenthal, Nina Scott, Eleanor Shattuck, Marybeth Bridegam, Gail Gaustad, Charles Gillies, Katharine Hazen, Sheila Klem, Sara Wright.

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

Minutes of the May Council meeting were approved after June Guild requested that "year-end" be deleted in the Finance Committee report.

At this time there was also a question about the date when the annual reports of committee chairs are due, suggesting that end of summer is too late. President Friedmann will ask Callie Orszak to send out a request for annual reports to be submitted by July 14. The annual reports will include a list of duties, expectations, and goals – with the expectation that the reports will be consulted by committee members.

Remarks by the President: Arnold expressed appreciation to everyone who had made the Annual Meeting such a success. He complimented Kathy Hazen and the Meetings Committee for the delicious refreshments. He congratulated Sheila Klem and Bobbie Reitt of the Curriculum Committee for the excellent Meet the Moderator arrangements, and he praised Nina Scott for her Nominating Committee's efficient work.

Thanks to the efforts of the Public Relations Committee, there were about 60 guests at the event and a legal quorum of about 130 5CLIR members.

President Friedmann also called attention to the superb service of three Council members whose terms are expiring -- Hy Edelstein, John Gaustad, and Dorothy Rosenthal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS were emailed in advance to members of the Council.

Questions or comments about the committee reports –

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE: Co-chair Sheila Klem distributed a draft calendar of future events. There was a question about two August meetings. An August 9 meeting of Council will take place as announced last month. The date of the

Curriculum Committee meeting will be announced later, and a special notice will be sent out by the office.

Discussion concerned the venue for the spring 2008 Meet the Moderators, especially the goal of scheduling the spring meeting on alternating sides of the river, when a great effort is made to have many guests.

Consensus was to accept the tentative calendar.

Further discussion involved a master calendar for Council members and committee heads. Hy Edelstein reviewed the past practice of LIR's comprehensive calendars -- a rough draft of the annual calendar at the end of summer, updated in January. The information is sent to Council and is available on the 5CLIR website.

President Friedmann called attention to the outstanding work of Curriculum Committee co-chair Sheila Klem. Bobbie Reitt will continue to co-chair the committee, with Sara Wright as new co-chair.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Discussion centered on a difference of perspective concerning transfers of funds, especially the timing of these transfers as the end of the fiscal year draws near.

MOTION: That the Program Reserve Fund be reduced to a \$2000 balance and that the Capital Fund be increased to a \$3000 balance as of June 30, 2007, transfers to take place between the named funds and the General Reserve Fund.
MOTION CARRIED.

ALSO MOVED: That as of year end, June 30, 2007, the balance of the Membership Assistance Fund be adjusted to \$500, offset from the General Reserve Fund.
MOTION CARRIED.

Concerning the issue of finance information for the membership, Charlie Klem said that he will prepare a newsletter article on this topic as soon as the year-end statements are complete.

President Friedmann thanked treasurer June Guild, and assistant treasurer Charlie Klem, and the Finance Committee for their patient, conscientious work in handling LIR's increasingly complex financial responsibilities.

MEETINGS COMMITTEE: Chair, Kathy Hazen, received applause for her committee's excellent arrangements and refreshments at Meet the Moderators and Annual Meeting. Discussion concerned logistics for these important events in the future.

-- Possibly the Meet the Moderators period could be shorter.

- Perhaps moderators can be directed to close up shop before the Annual Meeting begins rather than having them stay at their tables.
- More powerful microphones would be useful, and the Technology Committee is investigating better equipment for the Annual Meeting.
- Provisions for accurate voting are very important, such as the effective procedure devised for the 2006 Annual Meeting.
- Some coordinated structure is necessary to handle the many details, since this event involves several committees, especially Curriculum, Nominating, and Meetings.
- It is especially useful to have Callie at this event. When Callie attends a weekend event, she will be given a weekday away from the office.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chair Nina Scott, said that the list of nominees will be sent from the office soon. Since there were no nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting, nominees were from the seminars only. Nina was warmly thanked for her committee's work.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Co-chair Chuck Gillies spoke about the new membership prospects from the Meet the Moderators event –14 people who had called before and 32 who had filled out forms. There were about 70 guests at the event.

The committee has a leadership change. Jeff Caplan will be the new co-chair with Chuck.

The committee will be recruiting new members, especially since some exceptionally helpful members will no longer be on the committee – Sara Wright, Honoré David, and Nina Scott, as well as co-chair Jim Scott.

Council applauded Chuck and the members of his committee for their tireless, creative work during the past year.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Chair Marybeth Bridegam announced some changes in her committee's membership. The committee is losing valuable members Honoré David, Chuck Gillies, and Mary O'Brien-Irons. Ann Caplan will be one of the new members.

President Friedmann spoke of the comprehensive work that Marybeth and her committee have done to make this new program so successful.

SUMMER COMMITTEE: Co-chair Gail Gaustad spoke about the full summer program that has already run two well-attended events. The varied and impressive program of activities created by Gail and co-chair Sally Lawton and their committee has attracted a great deal of interest from the membership.

TECHNOLOGY: A suggestion was made to Technology chair Peter Reitt that the excellent PowerPoint workshop be given every year, since more and more members are finding this process useful at seminars.

MEMBERSHIP: Co-chair Sara Wright announced that Pat Keating will no longer be co-chair of the committee. Pat will continue to be available, however, as an experienced consultant to the committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Endowment Committee – President Arnold Friedmann, the originator of the Endowment Fund, gave the report in the absence of Chair Mary Franks. Arnold announced that the new endowment fund has had many donations already. As soon as the amount reaches \$10,000, it will be administered by Five Colleges, Inc., which has tax-free status. Dividends will be used for unforeseen LIR expenses.

Aging Creatively Conference –President Friedmann reported that Joan and Wil Hastings are very enthusiastic about organizing another Aging Creatively Conference for spring 2008. This year's conference was a great success, and a number of people want to take advantage of the momentum generated by this success. A balance of about \$5400 is available for the next conference, and Highland Valley Elder Services is again interested in working with 5CLIR.

A possible theme for this next conference will be relationships – such as those between the elderly and their adult children, taking care of aging parents, and similar topics.

NEW BUSINESS:

Report on the Potsdam Conference – Ruth Hooke will give her conference report at the August Council meeting.

Merging Meetings and Membership committees -- Dorothy Rosenthal suggested that a merger of the Meetings and Membership committees will result in better coordination of events. Possibly the name of the combined unit could be Hospitality Committee.

Past-President Dorothy Gorra suggested that this merged group be considered an Ad Hoc committee, so the bylaws would not have to be changed first. The present Meetings and Membership committees will discuss the advantages and problems of combining the committees, making sure that there are clearly defined guidelines and goals.

Date of Gala next year -- President Friedmann announced that the Anniversary Gala will be held in October 2008.

Possible change of name to "Lifelong Learning" – The Planning Committee will discuss this idea and bring results of their discussion to Council at a later date.

President's closing remarks: Arnold Friedmann expressed his pleasure in having served 5CLIR as President this past year. He spoke of the help given him by so many people in the organization, and he looks forward to next year's Council meetings, which he will attend as Past President. Arnold was enthusiastically thanked for his energetic service.

Finally, President Friedmann gaveled the meeting to a close with his new gavel – at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Mazur, Secretary