

## 5CLIR COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2007

### MINUTES

**Next Meeting: December 13, 2007**

**Present:** Marybeth Bridegam, Jeff Caplan, Mary Franks, Arnold Friedmann, Gail Gaustad, Chuck Gillies, Joan Hastings, Kathy Hazen, Ruth Hooke, Charlie Klem, Sheila Klem, Sally Lawton, Philippe Meyer, Barbara Reitt, Peter Reitt, Serene Rubin, Leo Sartori, Jim Scott, Nina Scott, Leo Sartori, Eleanor Shattuck, Bill Williams, Sara Wright

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by **President Mary Franks**.

**Minutes** of the October Council meeting were approved as corrected and previously sent by email.

**President's report:** Mary Franks reported that the Moderator's Reception on October 18, 1907 went very well as did the Long Range Planning Forum's. The first forum (26 October) was attended by 25 people and the second (2 November) by 40. Many ideas were exchanged.

**Vice President's Report:** Leo Sartori went to Smith College to see the facility where we will hold the Coming Attractions Reception. He reported that it was a nice facility and will work well for us. Jim Scott asked if there were adequate electrical hook-ups and Bobbie Reitt responded that all the details will be worked out by the committees responsible for the event. The food will be catered by Smith College but there will be a per-glass charge to members who want wine or beer.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala:** Honoré David, Chair, reported that this event will take place on 4 October 1908 at the Top of the Campus Restaurant at UMass. Her committee included Arnold Friedman, Mary Franks, Leo Sartori, Shelia Klem, Eleanor Shattuck, and Naomi Yanis. The cost of the prime rib dinner will be \$30.95 per person. This is based on 50 to 60 people attending and includes the charge for service and tax. A vegetarian option will be available. There will be guests attending which the treasury will need to pay for. It was noted that at the 15<sup>h</sup> Anniversary dinner we had 80 to 100 attendees. The facility can accommodate this number. A sign up sheet will be included in the Fall Catalogue packet which comes out in June, 2008. Shelia Klem will coordinate a book on the history of the organization. (To be considered: production costs for the booklet should be included when building next year's budget.) There will not be dancing, but the program will include testimonials by members which Ruth Hook will coordinate. It was moved and approved to postpone selection of the 'guest' list until the August, 2008 Council Meeting. The Council unanimously voted to accept Honoré's report with many thanks to her and her committee.

**Treasurer's Report:** Charlie Klem reported that year to date revenues are running somewhat below budget with all membership revenues through October \$45,900, approximately \$2000 below the budget. The number of new members this year, 57, is 8 below budget; Until the end of January, when second semester registration is complete, we will not have a reading on the number of first term trial

members continuing; additional spring revenues were budgeted at approximately \$4700. The number of associate members is 27, compared to 20 budgeted.

**Endowment Fund:** Pete Reitt reported that this committee met four times and although they were not negative to the concept of an Endowment Fund, the group had trouble defining the purposes of this fund given the other designated funds in 5CLIR. The committee strongly recommended giving back the monies collected and disbanding the fund. There is a little over \$5,000 in the Endowment Fund representing 12 to 20 donors. Discussion followed to consider re-establishing the fund at a later date and asking people to re-donate their gift to the Member Assistance Fund or some other fund within the organization. A motion was made to end this cycle of the Endowment Fund and return the money that was donated. Motion passed.

**Curriculum Committee:** Bobbie Reitt reported that the 18 October Moderators Reception was “great, stimulating and inspiring.” The findings from the moderators’ discussion will be taken up at the 6 December meeting. There will be 22 seminars offered at the November 5CLIR Preview: Coming Attractions. This translates to 355 seminar slots for the spring. A list of seminars being offered was circulated to Council members.

**Public Relations:** Chuck Gillies reported that Trial Members received a letter inviting them to the 5CLIR Preview: Coming Attractions. Special name tags will be available for them. The news release this time includes the list of seminars that will be available for sign up. Everyone is asked to email friends and neighbors inviting them to this event. A luncheon is planned to host Senior Center Directors. Our sliding scale and scholarship assistance policies for members will be stressed in talking to these Directors. Jim Scott reported that he, Chuck Gillies and Mary Franks will be speaking at the meeting of the UMass Association of Retired Professional Staff on 14 November. Informational materials will be made available to the Lathrop Centers. The bi-annual statistical report from October has been revised in November and an extensive report was given on our members’ profile. Feature articles are being submitted to “Life Goes On,” “Prime” and other such publications.

**Summer/ Winter Programs:** Gail Gausted reported that Callie now has the write-ups for the winter programs which will be in the packets for 18 November. All programs with the exception of the Smith College Rare Book Room, are open to the public.

**Membership and Meetings Committee:** Sheila Klem and Kathy Hazen reported that plans are in place for the November Preview: Coming Attractions and the 5CLIR Holiday Luncheon, (8 January 2008, snow date 9 January) at the Willits-Hallowell Center of Mt. Holyoke College. The question was raised whether to again have the Fall Preview combined with the Annual Meeting. The Fall Preview is currently scheduled for 25 May 2008. Unanimously agreed. Callie will contact Smith College to check out possible conflicts, and to reserve a room. A New Members Coffee hour may be offered on a Saturday morning next February. The committee will focus on serving the current membership: making new members feel welcome, serving as a complaint committee, and working on the retention of people who are full and trial member. The committee chairs feel there may be some cross-over between their mission and the PR Committee mission. Hopefully the new by-laws will clear up the confusion.

**Technology Committee:** A January ’08 computer workshop will be held at 222 Seelye Hall, Smith College on 14 & 15 January, from 9:00 or 9:30 am –12 noon. The title will be “How To Use the Internet To Help in Preparing Presentations,” or something similar. New audio equipment (speakers, mixers, etc.) is now

available for use. Our Web-master, Hy Edelstein has uploaded our web sight. The address is: [www.5CLIR.org](http://www.5CLIR.org) Please look at it and give the committee feedback.

**Special Programs:** Marybeth Bridegam reported the February through May, 2008 calendars of Special Programs being offered for the Spring Semester will be available, along with a description of each of the programs, in the packet that will be distributed at the 18 November Preview. We are delighted to say that most of the programs have been quite successful, with most of them continuing for the second year. In fact, we've had to request a larger space for the new Arts Interest Group, and the Viewpoints and Travel Groups are really pushing out the walls at the Highland Valley Elder Services Conference Room. The Committee conducts continuous evaluations and each semester, eliminates those programs that have not drawn a significant number of participants, replacing them with new programs that have been suggested by LIR members. We have considered several suggestions from members, which were evaluated in light of what area senior centers are offering; some were not pursued to avoid conflict. We have added Spanish Conversation, and will initiate two new Lecture Series, scheduled for February and March, by Leo Sartori and Jim Harvey. These will take place at the Northampton Senior Center on Friday mornings, 10:00 – 12 noon. We are looking for someone to coordinate some Encore Presentations, and then we will implement several that have been suggested. We ask that all LIR members who are in Seminars to let us know about really special Seminar presentations that you'd like to see made available to the entire LIR membership.

**Long-Range Planning:** Joan Hastings reported that the scheduled forums took place as planned. Forty-four people handed in questionnaires with more still arriving in Callie's office. The committee will meet 27 November to discuss the results and report their recommendations to the Council at the December meeting. The By-laws revision should start in January. Formulating what will need to be put before the membership at the Annual Meeting is the next project of this committee. The Conference on Aging Committee will meet 16 November to brainstorm the conference to take place 15 November 2008.

**Great Decisions:** Philippe reported that the dates have been set and speakers found. The flyer, distributed at the Council Meeting, will be used for the 18 November Spring Previews.

**OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT:** Callie reported that there was nothing out of the ordinary to report. Very busy with juggling the grid and booking seminars, meetings, and events and getting the catalog ready. 26 November is the deadline for the next Newsletter. Because we are 5CLIR, the Amherst College Faculty Dining Room may be used by our members. Advance notification should be given for a group of people wanting to eat there.

There being no Old or New Business to report the President called for adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Serene Rubin, Secretary