

Sartori

7/2008

The motion was made and passed unanimously that both the Development and the Aging Conference Committees go ahead and apply for the grants.

The question was put to the Council whether the Preview Committee should become a standing committee with a budget of its own. Motion to make the Preview committee permanent was put to the vote and passed unanimously.

Finally, the question was posed as to alternative venues for this 5CLIR Council meeting. Given the persistent difficulties of parking in the area, the proposal was made that we meet elsewhere. Council member Jim Scott's argument for continuing in our present site follows: Reactions to the suggestion to change our meeting room from 5 Colleges Inc.:

1. I am disturbed by calls to change the meeting place, and of complaints about parking and seating problems and of not feeling welcome.

2. Nina has worked with 5 Colleges Inc. since its inception, and has experienced nothing but cooperation, generosity and helpful staff in almost 40 years. As far as feeling "not welcome" is concerned, there are many, many groups which meet in this space, of which we are but one, and the receptionist (Nancy) has much to do. Nina has known Nancy for many years, and she is very nice.

3. We are given a fine meeting space and free refreshments every time we come. To try to duplicate this at any of the colleges would be very difficult, as we meet at prime teaching time, when meeting space and convenient parking are not available to outside groups. During the summer months parking at Five Colleges, Inc. is in any case not an issue, as street parking is permitted. And if we begin to carpool in earnest, the parking problem can be solved without too much difficulty.

The Florence Savings Bank space is smaller than the one at Five Colleges, and parking is also an issue.

4. Besides all of the above logistical reasons, I think it would be a political mistake to pull out of the present space. Being visible and interacting with Marie Hess, Lorna Peterson, etc. is very important to maintaining their support of our organization. Good will and appreciation is of the essence for keeping a good thing going, so, as Callie has pointed out, be creative in carpooling and realize what a boon this place is for us. Mary Franks recommended that Leo talk with Lorna Peterson of Five Colleges about this problem.

8/2008

Vice President's Report: Vice-President Sara Wright's written report follows: *The meeting of all the chairs in July was an excellent idea. My recommendation is that we continue this introductory meeting*

every year. I am looking for a time and place for the Preview Committee to meet; it will be the week of the 6th. All chairs who are involved, please let me know if you have a commitment beyond Special Programs and Seminars. I expect to meet with Curriculum, Meetings, Special Programs, January and Summer Programs, and Great Decisions. If other committees would like to attend let me know.

Issues: Joan Laird suggested we put short pieces about people in the newsletter. Pete Reitt noted that we're not a social club. Lise Armstrong noted that Callie shouldn't be solving people's personal problems, e.g. who needs a ride- this should be dealt with inside the seminars. Jeff Caplan asks to what degree are we a social service organization? If X has a problem, where should he turn?