

**FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**

JUNE 13, 2013

The regular meeting of the council was held at the Five College Center at 2:15 p.m

Present Council: Laura Cranshaw, Jim Harvey, Chris Hurn, Carol Jolly, Joan Laird, Betsy Loughran, Ellen Peck, Jim Perot, Jim Scott, Joan Wofford, Gordon Wyse

Absent Council: Marybeth Bridegam, Peter Ferber, Dorothy Gilbert, Sandy Muspratt

Committee Chairs Present: Susan Beer, Callie Orzak, Betsy Siersma, Sara Wright

Minutes: The minutes of May 9 were approved as presented.

Vice President's Report: Carol told us that there is a written history of the Five College building in which we meet. Callie offered to make a copy of it in the office for those who want to read it. This was also the site of the *Uncle Wiggly Stories* (1907). There is a copy in the library.

Finance: Betsy introduced Susan Beer who will be the new assistant treasurer. Betsy is in the process of learning to use a new system which can give us quarterly statements starting in the fall. Dues will not be a problem this year since our new office manager will start at a smaller salary. However, next year we may have to consider raising the annual dues. They have not been raised in several years.

Presidents Report: Jim reported the official election results. Officers for 2013-14 will be
 President—Carol Jolly
 Vice President—Michael Greenebaum
 Secretary—Ellen Peck
 Treasurer—Betsy Loughran
 Assist. Treasurer—Susan Beer

New Council members will be Dean Poli, Zina Tillona, and Fran Volkmann.

New Committee chairs will be Betsy Siersma, along with Marybeth Bridegam for Curriculum. Richard Szlosek will be added to the Special Programs committee.

All of these new appointments were approved by the Council.

Committee Reports:

Curriculum Committee: This committee has four new members: Diane Liebert, Jean Miller, Dean Poli, and Miriam Whitney. They were approved by the Council.

Carol gave us a breakdown on the seminar registrations for the fall. (see separate sheet) One issue is that only 196 of our 295 members are registered for seminars. She was not sure whether this was a higher percentage than usual. Those not taking seminars are participating in Special Programs, book group, trips and other offerings. All of these activities have grown in the past years. Do we see a trend here? Do we need to consider a member survey to determine why more people are not taking seminars? If there is a trend away from seminars, this will affect our future decisions. Is there still a

snow bird problem in scheduling? Could Council members call those who have not signed up for seminars?

Old Business:

Jim announced that Sheila Clem will take charge of the 25th Anniversary Bash. She will get together a committee to organize and plan the celebration. One idea was that we could offer “retro seminars”—seminars that were offered in the beginning of LIR.

Recycling Issue: Joan Laird registered an objection to recent proposals to put our seminar catalogue on line instead of sending everyone a printed copy. The printed catalogue is a good recruiting tool. It is a good reference during the year. Many of our older members still do not like to do things on line so this might be a hardship for them. Printing it is not such a large part of our total budget.

Carol replied that usually 75 catalogues are mailed. The cost is \$5 or \$6 per person. Could we offer a dues discount for those who will go on-line?

Callie told us that several years ago there was a survey about this issue and 50% wanted a printed catalogue. We now cannot use bulk mail since that requires 200. Postage may increase in the future.

Annual Report: Jim reminded us that he is compiling an annual report. He will mail out a form. We are to let him know if there is anything other than the committee reports that should be included. These annual reports are sent to the five colleges and are put on our web site. There was a question whether our members realize we have an annual report. One copy is supposed to be kept in the office.

Great Decisions: Jim Scott wanted us to give cudos to the Great Decisions Program which had a very successful year (see printed report). We had great lecturers; people liked the lecturers better than the presenters in the films. The program made a profit which goes into our regular budget. (Winter/Summer also makes a small profit which goes toward expenses of the fall picnic.)

Tech Committee: Jim Perot announced that the new mobile mike will cost about \$150.

New Business:

Our new office manager Liz Tiley has been hired. She will be with Callie all next week for training and orientation. Since she lives in Northampton, she will be able to walk to work. In order for the Council members to meet her, Carol suggested that our August meeting be an introduction for Liz and a chance for us all to meet her.

Jim thanked Joan Wofford and Carol Jolly for the many hours they spent reading resumes and participating in interviews.

Council Transition: Jim thanked Marybeth Bridegam, Laura Cranshaw, Joan Laird, and Joan Wofford who are all leaving Council. He passed the gavel to Carol Jolly.

Next Council Meeting will be on August 8, 2013 for all who can make it.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Peck, Secretary.