

FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
AUGUST 13, 2015

Present: Sheila Klem (president), Gordon Wyse (vice-president), Kathy Campbell (Asst. Treasurer), Dean Poli, Zina Tillona, Jim Averill, Ann Hartman, Fran Volkmann, Tyll Van Geel, Bobbie Reitt, Marybeth Bridegam, Jake Greenburg, Ina Luadtke, Gail Gaustaad, Chuck Gillies, Liz Tiley, Richard Szlosek(Secretary)

Absent: Betsy Loughran

Meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM

Sheila Klem began the meeting by introducing the three new members of council, Bobbie Reitt, Ann Hartman and Jake Greenburg. All persons in attendance then gave a brief summary of their experiences in LIR.

Sheila next said a few words about the passing of William Jolly, husband of past president, Carol Jolly. It was then mentioned that Michael Greenbaum, who was to hold the office of past president, has left LIR. Sheila stated that, with the aid of the office manager, she believed she could assume the three main responsibilities of Greenbaum's office. His departure means there are now only five members on the executive committee and fourteen voting members instead of fifteen at council meetings. Sheila felt that she would abstain from voting in close contests and have the ability to cast a tie-breaking vote in case of a deadlock. No opposition was stated to her plan.

Old Business:

It is the duty of this year's council to solicit comments and suggestions from the membership in regard to the proposed changes to the by-laws. The changes must be presented to the membership at least 90 days before the annual meeting on May 1. It was suggested by Sheila that, since there are three new members on the council (Hartman, Reitt and Greenburg) as well as three new members on the executive committee (Wyse, Szlosek and Campbell) unfamiliar with the changes, the six of them should meet with a member of the ad hoc committee that created the changes to familiarize themselves with the process. Gordon Wyse agreed to coordinate such a meeting and it is expected they will report back to the full council at the October meeting.

Gordon also said that he had spoken with all committee chairs and reported that the curriculum committee was one member short due to a resignation; that the public relations committee was about ready to start up and that the tech committee needed members even though this committee was now acting more as a resource group and not a formal committee.

Committee Reports:

Chuck Gillies reported that the development committee has chosen the name “5CLIR Campaign for the Future”. The campaign is about to leave the “quiet” phase and make a public announcement in the September newsletter to be followed by a mailed letter to all members after the September picnic. The goal is to raise \$250,000 dollars and that the “indicated gifts” now stand at 52% of that number. Chuck traced the history of previous fundraising efforts and said that the committee now needs (1) moral support, (2) comments and advice, (3) volunteers to speak to members about giving, (4) information about members able to give leadership gifts and (5) support from all members and that gifts of \$250 or more will be matched by members of the committee up to \$60,000. In answer to questions, Chuck said the funds are invested in a quasi-endowment managed by Five College Inc., that the gifts are tax deductible and that the drive will conclude on June 30, 2016.

Ina Luadtke, chairperson of the Special Programs committee, reminded all that a new collage program will begin on September 17 and that the next poetry reading event will be April 15, 2016. She also said her committee now has 8 of the 9 members permitted and that Kay Klausewitz will become the co-chair.

Sheila read a report from Honore David of the Summer-Winter programs. Nancy Denig will be the new chairperson. The committee sponsored trips to Newport, RI and Mystic Ct., the Harvard Art Museum, the Fruitlands Museum, New Century Theater, Tanglewood and to a music camp in Cummington. There was also a recent geology walk.

Tyll Van Geel asked that he and Michael Brooks be confirmed as co-chairs of the Curriculum Committee which was then unanimously done. Tyll said they needed one more person on the committee and had just invited someone to join. He remarked that the revised form for seminar proposals is now on the website and that the electronic and paper forms are now identical. He also said there will be only one moderator’s meeting this fiscal year and it will take place in the spring and perhaps have two different segments to it; one for new moderators and one for those needing assistance in organizing a seminar.

Gail Gaustaad of the Member Services committee reminded us that the picnic will be on September 16 at her home with a rain date of September 17. They are working on the new-comers lunch and that Nancy Clune will become the new chairperson.

For the Great Decisions Committee, Jake Greenburg reported that no topics have yet been chosen for next spring and won’t be selected until December. The committee has two new members and is in need of a new co-chair.

Office Manager, Liz Tiley, said that there are currently 256 members, 13 of whom are associate members and 23 are new members. She expects the total to increase soon as people return from their summer vacations. She also said she has been in communication with various committee chairs all summer. Road Scholar has a new website and Liz was the first one to be interviewed for it. She said she made reference to Jim Harvey, Larry Amb, Chuck Gillies and Hy Edelstein during the interview. She is experimenting with

placing council minutes on the LIR website and has posted minutes from 1990 to gauge people's reactions to them.

No new business was brought forth and Sheila expressed an interest in getting veteran members to come back to work on committees. She finished up with the hope that the Public Relations Committee could find someone to spearhead it and said the next meeting would be September 10.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:29.

Respectfully Submitted:

August 14, 2015

Richard W. Szlosek, Secretary