

FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

Meeting called to order at 2:15 PM

Present: Sheila Klem (President), Gordon Wyse (Vice-President), Cathy Campbell (Asst. Treasurer), Richard Szlosek (Secretary)

Council Members: Dean Poli, Fran Volkmann, Zina Tillona, Jim Averill, Ann Hartman, and Bobbie Reitt

Absent: Betsy Loughran (Treasurer), Marybeth Bridegam, Tyll van Geel, Jacob Greenburg

Committee Chairs and Others Present: Gail Gaustad, Larry Ambs, Chuck Gillies, Ina Laudtke, Kay Klausewitz, Michael Brooks, Sara Wright and Liz Tiley (Office Manager)

Special Guest: Neal Abraham (Executive Director of Five Colleges Inc.)

Larry Ambs (Five College Inc, Liaison) introduced special guest, Neal Abraham, who gave an informative talk about the history of Five College Inc. which is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. He stated that more than 6,000 students and 100 faculty members now take classes or teach at more than one institution in the Five College group. He will soon be meeting with officials in Hadley for permission to construct the Five College library storage facility in that town. He indicated that building would have much-needed office space and some class rooms for Learning in Retirement to use.

Fran Volkmann, Zina Tillona and Sheila Klem all made positive comments about their experiences with Five College Inc. and Sheila expressed the hope there would be more interaction between LIR members and the local college undergraduates. Mr. Abraham then had to leave for another appointment.

The minutes of the June 11th and August 13th council meetings were then accepted.

Old Business:

As to the changes in the by-laws, Sheila stated that the three new members of the Executive Committee and the three new members of the Council would meet soon to go over the proposed changes. Gordon then said the meeting would be September 23 at 1 PM at the home of Bobbie Reitt.

Sheila reported that Fran Volkmann had agreed to lead the Nominating Committee and that four more persons would soon be named.

Gordon then stated that most of the committees were well underway for the fall but that the Public Relations Committee was still without a chairperson. Fran Volkmann suggested it be recommended to that committee that they set up a program of rotating chairpersons and Gordon said he would talk to the committee members about that.

The meeting then moved on to reports from the committee chairs.

Michael Brooks of the Curriculum Committee said they now have 14 members and had so far received 5 proposals. He said the final 20 minutes or so of their first meeting had focused on the question of emeritus/auditor status of some older members who feel they can no longer give presentations but wish to sit in on seminars. Michael said the members of his committee were all former or present moderators and the sense of the committee was that the moderators should have much discretion in granting auditor status. This generated a good deal of discussion from members of the Council as to whether the emeritus designation should be on a trial basis and whether it conflicts with the already existing special status designation. In the end, Michael said his committee would continue to work on the question and hopefully have a proposal at the October meeting. Sheila then read the names of all the present Curriculum Committee members to the Council and the committee membership was fully approved by Council.

Chuck Gillies of the Development Committee next presented a graph to the Council indicating the present level of the fund raising drive. On the basis of intended gifts, the drive is approximately at 60% of its goal. Chuck stressed the importance of leadership gifts and that there are \$70,000 of intended pledges that are earmarked as matching dollars for future gifts. He talked about the tax advantages of donating stock certificates to the drive as opposed to cashing the stocks and donating cash. Shortly after the September 16 picnic, a packet of information will go out to the entire membership explaining the aims of the fund raising drive. There will be a forum at Lathrop Northampton in October for members living on the West side of the river and another at Applewood (date to be determined) for those on the east side. It was also mentioned that Cathy Campbell is now a member of the Development Committee.

There was no report from the Finance Committee as Betsy Loughran is still on vacation.

There was no report from the Great Decisions Committee as Jake Greenburg was absent but it was pointed out that the committee's survey of possible topics for discussion is on-line for members to vote on.

Gail Gaustad of the Member Services Committee reminded Council that the annual picnic is at her home on September 16. She also said the committee has some new members.

Ina Luadtke of the Special Programs Committee introduced Kay Klausewitz as the new co-chair and said the committee has four new members. Their next meeting is September 22.

There was no one present from either the Summer-Winter Committee nor the Tech Committee.

Liz Tiley, the Office Manager, said we now have 267 members, 20 of whom are new and 15 associates. She will now be assisted by a work studies student for ten hours a week. Because it is considered an off-campus job, 70% of her salary will come from the federal government and 30% from Five Colleges Inc.

Liz then again raised the question of Applewood's request to subsidize the cost of printing our catalog with the proviso that we print it with their logo. Sheila informed the Council that the Executive Committee had decided that was not the way for LIR to go. There then ensued a great deal of discussion on this point with suggestions ranging from creating a specific advertising page for the retirement communities to the suggestion we allow the use of the various logos in exchange for guaranteed seminar space.

Bobbie Reitt made the following motion:

We thank Applewood for its kind offer but we cannot accept it because it is against our policy to issue our publications under anyone else's logo than our own.

The motion was seconded by Ann Hartman and passed by a vote of 9 for and 1 opposed.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 and the next meeting will be on October 8, 2015

Respectfully Submitted:
September 12, 2015
Richard Szlosek, Secretary