

FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Present: Sheila Klem (President), Gordon Wyse (Vice-President), Betsy Loughran (treasurer), Kathy Campbell (Asst. Treasurer), Richard Szlosek (Secretary), Zina Tillona, Jim Averill, Tyll van Geel, Bobbie Reitt, Dean Poli, Marybeth Bridegam, Ann Hartman, Jacob Greenburg

Guests: Chuck Gillies, Gail Gaustad, Nina Scott, Liz Tiley, Ina Luadtke

Absent: Fran Volkmann

Meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM

The minutes of December 10, 2015 were approved by Council

Officer Reports:

Sheila began the meeting by reporting on the Memorial Service of January 9. Twelve deceased members were remembered and twenty-two people attended. She also commented on the success of the LIR tour of the David Ruggles homestead in Florence and mentioned that she had visited the new assisted living facility, Christopher Heights, in Northampton and hoped LIR might eventually be able to utilize some meeting space there. Sheila also updated the Council on the status of the LIR office in Neilson Library on the Smith campus. She said the library renovations would not begin until sometime in mid-2017 and that Neal Abraham would have more information on the project later this year.

Vice-President Gordon Wyse had no report except that the committees were active and underway.

Treasurer Betsy Loughran deferred most of her remarks until the Finance Committee report but said LIR was in good shape financially and that so far expenses had been slightly under projection.

Old Business:

There was a lengthy discussion on how to incorporate the concept of emeritus auditors into the existing LIR seminar structure. At its last meeting on February 4, 2016, the Executive Committee had taken the proposal of the Curriculum Committee and modified its language. The revamped proposal was then distributed to the Council members for their comments and suggestions. A series of motions were proposed. Tyll van Geel put forth four motions.

Motion 1: An Emeritus Auditor may audit more than one seminar. This was seconded by Marybeth Bridegam and passed by the Council.

After much back and forth, Tyll van Geel agreed that his second motion should be reframed to read:

Motion 2: A moderator may decide not to accept any auditors or, if they are willing to accept any, they may determine the number they will accept. This was seconded by Dean Poli and passed by the Council.

Motion 3: An Emeritus Auditor cannot participate as an active member in the seminars. This was seconded by Dean Poli and passed by the Council.

Motion 4: An Emeritus Auditor must notify the Office Manager that they wish to be Emeritus Auditors for the duration of the two-year experiment. This was seconded by Marybeth Bridegam and was not passed by the Council.

Dean Poli then proposed another motion:

Motion: Under the Criteria of Eligibility, the word “paid” at the beginning of the second sentence be changed to “pay”. It was seconded by Zina Tillona and Ann Hartman and passed by the Council.

Ann Hartman then followed with another motion as to the same sentence:

Motion: Under the Criteria of Eligibility, the second sentence be shortened to read “Pay for a full membership”. This was seconded by Zina Tillona and passed by the Council.

The Proposal for Emeritus Auditors, as amended, was then passed by the Council. The proposal was then returned to the Executive Committee for its updated wording and will be presented to the Council in its corrected form at the March meeting.

Committee Reports:

Curriculum Committee: Tyll van Geel said they have received but seven proposals for the fall thus far. The moderators’ meeting will be March 4 at the Northampton Lathrop location at 1 PM. He said the committee is revising the Moderator’s Manual and had written up a calendar and sent it on to the office manager. Tyll said one seminar was cancelled due to illness and that 16 people did not get their first choice and 5 didn’t get any.

Development Committee: Chuck Gillies reported that in the fund raising drive towards the goal of \$250,000, there is now a total of \$182,505 which includes funds from the \$70,000 match sum and gifts that are intended to come in. The actual amount already received is \$106,052. Chuck reminded everyone that it is now possible donate on the web site.

Finance Committee: Treasurer Betsy Loughran reiterated she believed LIR is on track to have a balanced budget for the year. She reminded committee chairs that she needs their budget requests by March 1. After a brief explanation of the funds in the 5CLIR Campaign for the Future fund, Betsy made the following motion on behalf of the Finance Committee:

Motion: The Council vote to move a total of \$50,000 from the 5CLIR Campaign from the Future to the 5CLIR Investment Fund in three quarterly increments. The motion was seconded by Gordon Wyse and passed by the Council. This process will begin as soon as the Council approves the minutes at the next meeting.

Betsy made another motion in regard to discounted full year payments as presently stated on the 5CLIR membership registration form. She moved:

Motion: The clause in regard to full year discounted membership shall now read "\$125 Discounted Full Year: July 1-June 30 (For individuals living on restricted income or having large medical or other bills). The motion was seconded by Zina Tillona and passed by the Council with the understanding it will be revisited in a few years.

Great Decisions: Jacob Greenburg said the program of Five Fridays in April is ready to go and showed the Council the brochures and post cards that will be sent out shortly.

Membership Services: Gail Gaustad said the New Comers Tea/Coffee would be on February 18 from 10 - noon at Loomis Village in South Hadley. Her committee will meet on February 17 to discuss plans for the April Event which will be on Monday April, 4 from 4-6 PM at the Hadley Farms Meeting House. It was announced that Thomas Perl will be the speaker that day.

Nominating Committee: Ann Hartman said the committee had completed its work and would announce the slate of nominees at the March Council meeting.

Public Relations Committee: Nina Scott announced that the Hampshire Life supplement of the Gazette would be featuring nine separate articles by herself and Katey van Geel on recipes they had developed in a LIR cooking workshop. Nina was hopeful the April 4 edition of the Gazette would feature an article on the LIR Science Round Table.

Special Programs: Ina Luadtke reported that Joan Wofford's Travel Interest Group has been temporarily suspended but hopes to resume in the future. Kay Klausewitz and Gary Rodman wish to form a Theater Interest Group and have sent out a survey to gather responses. There will be an April Afternoon of Poetry on April 15 at Rockridge in Northampton and original poetry submissions have been requested by February 22.

Technology Committee: While this committee has become ad hoc, it was reported that Peter Reitt had given a successful file sharing class that was attended by approximately 14 people.

Summer-Winter Program: No one was present from the committee but the annual forum with area legislators had to be canceled due to a snow storm.

Office Manager: Liz Tiley said 18 members who had joined for last fall did not re-register for the spring. She said there are now a total of 283 members in 5CLIR.

Respectfully Submitted:
February 14, 2016
Richard W. Szlosek, Secretary