

November 12, 1992. Meeting of the Council of Learning in Retirement.
Present: Southworth, Unger, Greenberg, Wisneski, Beal, Morse, Keating,
Lehman, Gibson, Senders, Dunn, Keppler, McAfee, Lawton

The Secretary's report was read and accepted with a few minor changes.

Barbara Southworth reported that Bill Lieson and Ellie Quint were unable to attend the meeting because of illness and that Gerry Braunthal had been hospitalized. This led to a discussion of whether the Council should send get-well cards to members. Ultimately, it was agreed that this should be handled through the individual seminars; that each seminar could act on its own initiative. Ginny Senders suggested that moderators could leave news of illness of members on her answering machine and that she would pass the message to Lucy McAfee who volunteered to send a card, if appropriate.

Barbara Southworth introduced the subject of refunds of dues. One of our members was forced to withdraw from a seminar for health reasons and requested a refund. The Council discussed the problems involved and agreed that there is a need to articulate a clear policy on withdrawal from a seminar or withdrawal from membership and a policy of refunds in either case. The Council agreed with the President that the matter should be referred to the Policy and Procedure Task Force.

Ginny Senders reported for the Curriculum Committee the results of the questionnaire on the calendar. Respondents were almost unanimous in approval of the fall semester as it stands. More problems arose in the spring when more people travel. As a result of opinions expressed in the survey, the Curriculum Committee has established a later date for the start of the spring semester (Feb 15) and determined that it will give moderators some flexibility in setting up the spring calendar for their seminars. In response to questions about the summer, members expressed an interest in short programs, perhaps two-three weeks and members had many suggestions as to course topics.

Ginny Senders reported that as of Nov 12, nine seminars were in place for spring '93.

The Council discussed problems of registration and attendance at seminars. Lucy McAfee suggested that some statistics on attendance would be helpful and volunteered to get in touch with the fall moderators to get figures on attendance for fall '92.

Anne Keppler reported a balance of \$12,836.00

Ellen Goodwin reported on chairs. In order to coordinate delivery to the Field House when the office is open, Lucy will place the order with Staples in West Springfield. In connection with this order, there was some discussion of petty cash and the payment of bills. Anne and Lucy will go into the matter and clarify the policy.

Suzanne Lehman reported on a conference of the University of the Third Age which she attended in Exeter, England. This organization for continuing education has branches all over Europe, 125 groups in England. Suzanne explained their programs and talked about the similarities and differences between their organization and LIR. She noted that 1993 has been designated the European Year of Old People with planning for conferences and other special events. Some members of LIR and the University of the Third Age have shown interest in the possibility of an

exchange between the two organizations with perhaps a two-three week program designed especially for the period of the exchange. Suzanne will continue to be in correspondence with her contacts in England.

Barbara Southworth reported that the committee organizing the meeting on planning for the future has made progress. The committee, under the chairmanship of Bill Lieson, feels that there is no rush to schedule the meeting in January. The committee feels that the session should be well advertized to the membership and that a large attendance should be encouraged. The President emphasized that one goal should be to engage more people in the work of the organization. Another goal for the meeting is to get input from as many members as possible.

Sally Lawton reported on plans for the reception for the Art Exhibit.

There was discussion of the general meeting in December. Ginny Senders expressed concern that it is difficult for moderators to get information about seminars across to members within the format of a pot-luck lunch. Nicole Dunn suggested an alternative plan dividing the meeting into two sessions. It was decided to have a Sherry Party on December 14th which will be a session at which moderators will meet with members to discuss course content. A general meeting and pot-luck will be scheduled for January. A tentative date of the 2nd Tuesday in January was suggested.

Ellen Goodwin, Secretary