

August 11, 1993. Meeting of the Council of Learning in Retirement. Present: Beal, Keating, Wisneski, Lieson, Kaufman, Rapoport, Keppler, Dolloff, Dunn, Braunthal, Roetter, Quint, Lehman, Unger, Southworth.

The Secretary's report was approved as read.

The Treasurer's report was read. The proposed 92-92 budget was for a total of \$16,000. Actual expenditures for 92-93 came to \$18,000. Total membership numbered 150. The Treasurer presented a proposed budget for the coming year of \$20,000. With the present enrollment of membership standing at about 100, projected expenditures for 93-94 will be about \$4000. more than projected income. Bill Lieson said that this shortfall is an item that the Finance Committee should discuss and that the committee can consider the possibility of taking some funds from our reserves. A motion was made and passed to accept the Treasurer's report. Jean Roetter stated that copies of the report should be made available to all of the members. Considerable discussion followed on the subject of the relationship of dues to membership. It is the stated policy of the Council that dues represent a commitment to membership in LIR and not "fee for service" or tuition payment for seminars attended. In this connection, there was a suggestion that LIR might consider a system of payments which includes a fee for Sustaining Membership with additional fees for seminar tuition. Some members of the Council feel that this matter should be discussed and voted on by the membership at large. Marjorie Kaufman stated that the membership voted to accept the By-Laws and to accept the policy of the Council on membership. Gladys Rapoport said that this issue has been discussed many times and has been reviewed each time that it is challenged by a special case involving attendance and dues. She feels that we need a clear statement of the policy including such matters as how long former members who have not paid dues will be retained on the mailing list, etc.. Barbara Southworth noted that this year there has been a change in fiscal policy with membership dues to be paid by June 15th. Several members of the Council felt that the membership is not clear about this policy and that we need to articulate it to the members. They felt that members delay registration in seminars until closer to the beginning of the academic year and that they consequently do not pay dues until the fall. Harley Unger suggested that a letter from Bill Lieson should go out to members stating that dues are due and listing those seminars which are still open.

In the absence of <sup>GINNY SENDERS</sup> ~~David Navon~~, Annie Keppler reported for the Curriculum Committee. She read current enrollment figures, noting that several seminars have fewer members than the minimum number of six. Marjorie Kaufman said that the committee should keep all seminars open until September 10th and that perhaps the committee should get in touch with members in seminars which have low enrollment and encourage those people to look at the list of seminars still open.

Priscella Dolloff reported that she had received the Membership Committee files from Pat Keating and that her committee would

discuss recruiting plans. She passed around a flyer from the Hartford LIR organization and commented on the attractiveness of the layout of their materials.

Harley Unger reported for the Summer Programs that the administrative mechanism had worked well and that attendance numbers were well above what the committee had expected.

Suzanne Lehman reported for the committee planning the visit of representatives of the University of the Third Age. Committee members are; Justin Hartman, Betty Johnson, Ginny Senders, Bill Lieson, Sally Lawton, and Barbara Southworth. Eight people from Dartmouth, England, will come to Amherst in October for home stays. They will attend seminars in the LIR program. From Amherst, they will go on to Concord and then to Hanover to attend seminars of the LIR program associated with Dartmouth. A motion was made and accepted to approve of the plans of the committee.

Suzanne Lehman reported for the Newsletter Committee. The newsletter will come out every two weeks, the first issue on the Wednesday after Labor Day with a deadline for material on August 27th. Suzanne noted that the committee needs to choose a new Chair. Bill Lieson expressed thanks to Harley Unger for the work that he has done with preparing computer programs.

Marjorie Kaufman reported on the work on the manual for members and moderators. She asked members of the Council for their suggestions as to contents of the manual. The manual is to be in looseleaf format and the Council felt that it should cover a time period of one year. Suggestions for contents included: names of officers and committee chairs, rules concerning membership and dues, the By-Laws, names of committee members.

Bill Lieson opened a discussion of the proposed amendments to the By-Laws. He said that the two major issues concern the relationship of committee chairs to the Council and the question of representative vs town hall governance. Bill suggested the since the By-Laws had been adopted so recently, that discussion of amendments be tabled at this time. Jean Roetter moved that the proposed amendments be table for a period of four months after which the By-Laws would be considered again. The motion passed. Harley Unger urged that an objective review of the amendments be made by a committee and that Council action should be taken before the end of the year.

Jean Roetter spoke on the matter of the relationship of committee chairs to the Council. She stated that in her capacity of Vice President she will act as liason between the chairs and the Council. She plans to attend committee meetings or to send a representative and to encourage chairs to ask to be placed on the agenda to make reports to the Council when it is appropriate. Barbara Southworth said that there has been confusion in the minds of some members on this subject and that the intent of the statement in the By-Laws concerning committee chairs is to clarify the responsibilities of the chairs to their committees as opposed to the responsibilities of the Council to the membership as a whole. Bill Lieson feels that the work Jean Roetter proposes to do will help in establishing guide lines for the roles to be played by each group within the organization. Jean feels that a statement of the responsibilities of each

Cheltenham  
Barbara Southworth  
Tentative

months

group should be included in the forthcoming manual for members. Marjorie Kaufman suggested that she would request chairs to submit to her a statement of how they see the function of their committee within the framework of our governance.

Bill Lieson spoke about the work of the committee discussing the format for a Planning Conference. He outlined suggestions for two meetings, one a forum with an open mike and one with a panel discussion. Members of the Council were divided in their opinion between those who feel that there is no need for this kind of a conference and those who feel that it is needed to give the members at large a chance to have input into planning for LIR. Bill Lieson suggested that the idea be tabled until the next Council meeting.

In connection with discussion of plans for a September kick-off meeting, Barbara Southworth told the Council about the Skinner mansion in South Hadley. She and Gladys Rapoport visited the building and reported that it would be an elegant place for a LIR party. Council members agreed that the September kick-off meeting should be at the Red Barn with a pot luck lunch. A date will be chosen near the end of September, depending on the availability of the Red Barn.

A motion was made and accepted to adjourn.

Ellen Goodwin, Secretary.