

Five College LIR Council
Minutes of the meeting of October 8, 1998
Five Colleges, Inc.

Present were Peg Bedell, Chuck Gillies, Bob Grose, Jonathan Hanke, Marcia Holden, Amy Johnson, Pat Keating, Anne Keppler, David Moriarty, Eleanor Reid, Paul Rothery, Jane Sherman, Marcia Silverman, Barbara Snoek, Diedrick Snoek, Charlotte Winston and Jackie Wisneski.

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 by President Diedrick Snoek, who asked for and received approval of the minutes of the meeting of September 10th.

II. Diedrick gave us news on the computer - that we have returned the under equipped one to Smith, and added software to the new one which gives us Internet access and an E-mail address through the college.

Classroom problems have been solved, at least for now, and all seminars are housed.

III. b. *Finance*: Charlotte distributed copies of the year-to-date financial report, with proposed budget figures for FY99. The Finance Committee has suggested higher figures for certain expenses which are affected by our larger enrollment. She also noted her efforts to separate capital expenditures from operational costs, and said that it should be arranged this fall. Her report was accepted.

Our Vice-president, Pat Keating, asked to speak, pointing out that we had had only eight elected council members since the fall of 1997 when Diedrick had been elected both as a member and as President-elect. It was proposed that Diedrick should invite the candidate with the next highest number of votes last spring to join us as the ninth member. This was approved.

a. *Curriculum*: Eleanor's committee will meet on November 5th, with a reception for moderators to follow. Midge White will ask for their feedback on the manual.

At its last meeting the committee discussed policy on campus locations for seminars, especially in view of the current problem at Hampshire College where a seminar was ousted because of a last-minute decision by a faculty member. The moderator found space at The Arbors, a retirement development in Amherst, and seminar members are very happy with it. The committee is concerned about a long-term association with any retirement community, and wants very much to continue using campus facilities except in such emergency situations. The possibility of space at the Renaissance Center at the University was mentioned. Diedrick has asked a small committee to look into the problem of meeting space for us, as he feels it is important, though a bit tricky, to ensure the visibility of LIR as a Five College enterprise.

The issue of lottery procedure was settled by consensus for staying with the present system, although they may reconsider in the future. Jackie was asked to include the statement of procedure in the next Newsletter, and Eleanor will ask her committee to consider shortening the time between the spring registration for fall seminars and their October start.

Seminar proposal forms will be included in the information to be mailed out about the Coffee Conversations for this fall, and moderators will be urged to encourage direct and "shadow" proposals.

The South Hadley Council on Aging requested help with a writing course, and we have a volunteer willing to do this unofficially.

David Moriarty and his Membership Committee will be asked to share in the preparation of a new brochure as well as the Handbook for Members.

c. *January programs:* Paul reported on the four programs set for the winter. Kay Moran and Charles Moran will talk about the effect of technology on writing on January 6th. We'll have a pianist (we *hope* it will be Estella Olevsky!) on the 13th. Linda Kinney will offer a cooking demonstration on the 20th, and Craig Felton will talk about Spanish painting on the 28th - a Thursday. This last ties in nicely with our European trip plans.

Esther Crystal is trying to go through our records and clarify costs for January programs in an effort to improve estimates for the future. Paul requested suggestions for summer programs.

d. *Membership:* David reported one more new member of LIR, bringing the total to 170. Each new member was called before the September potluck meeting, which may have increased the number attending. His committee discussed the optimal size of 5CLIR, but there was general feeling on Council that there was no need to think about restricting the number of members at this time.

e. *Newsletter:* Jackie said that the deadline for the November Newsletter is October 15th. She is trying to make the format a bit more sophisticated, and would welcome suggestions or help.

f. *Publicity:* Marcia said that Karen sent all the information about the fall curriculum to the Gazette, but they cut most of it. Diedrick urged the development of acquaintance with the person at the paper who handles these notices, in order to ensure better coverage.

g. *Meetings:* The May meeting will probably be on Thursday May 20th, at the Red Barn. The Decennial celebration will be at Willits-Hallowell on Thursday, April 15th.

IV. b. Diedrick asked for consideration of our participation in the first national EIN Conference, next June in Washington, DC. Its themes will be planning for the future, self-study of our strengths, weaknesses and potential. We wondered whether there would be a regional meeting in 1999, but didn't decide anything about the national at this time. We do have a unique format, judging by responses at the meeting in Amherst, and will just have completed our trip in conjunction with Elderhostel.

a. Harley, Esther, Jane and Karen are meeting about our space needs. Diedrick gave them some questions and they are brainstorming.

c. All our past presidents are working on plans for the celebration of our tenth anniversary. They will welcome ideas on who should be honored for participation in the founding of 5CLIR, and how we should recognize the contribution of Five Colleges, Inc.

Marcia Silverman said that the Special Events Committee will be meeting on October 9th, and that she has given Karen a letter to be sent to moderators asking for requests. Great Decisions will be shown in the spring, and Marcia was reminded that Laura Schilling was a very experienced at this.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50. The next meeting will be held at Five Colleges, Inc., at 1:30 on Thursday, November 12.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Keppler, Secretary