

Five College LIR Council  
Minutes of the meeting of November 12, 1998  
Five Colleges, Inc.

Present were Peg Bedell, Ted Belsky, Chuck Gillies, Bob Grose, Jonathan Hanke, Amy Johnson, Pat Keating, Anne Keppler, Jay Melrose, David Moriarty, Eleanor Reid, Barbara Snoek, Diedrick Snoek, Charlotte Winston, Jackie Wisneski and Naomi Yannis.

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by President Diedrick Snoek, who introduced the ninth member of Council, Naomi Yannis. He then asked for approval of the minutes of the October meeting. After corrections of the deadline for receipt of items for the November Newsletter and of the date for the December Potluck, the minutes of the meeting of October 8th were approved as corrected.

II. Diedrick gave us word that Jean Stabell will stay on until the middle of January, at which time her replacement will take office as Treasurer of Five Colleges, Inc. He also informed us that Smith College will be closed from December 24th to January 6th, with no mail available. There seems no point in Karen's coming in during that period, although she will check voice mail to the office from her home, and respond if appropriate. Diedrick will suggest, at the Potluck and in the Newsletter, that registrations for the spring be mailed in to arrive before or after that period, and that envelopes be marked "Registration" to assist in sorting. If need be, LIR volunteers can help sort after January 6th.

III. Treasurer Charlotte Winston could not give us figures for October as the Five College computer had crashed. However, she assured us that our figures were secure.

*Finance Committee:* Committee members Grace Makepeace and Harley Unger have designed a new and better reporting form. It is longer than the former one-pager, but it separates operating income and expenses from all others, and will make clearer any use of capital funds. Charlotte couldn't convince her printer to handle the new form today, but hopes to have it for us in December.

IV. Diedrick reports that the National Yiddish Book Center has agreed to let us use space at the Center for a seminar on Yiddish history, music, food, etc., without charging rent, but would like to receive a donation from 5CLIR. Council is very reluctant to set a precedent of paying for space for seminars, but is interested in supporting the Center. Can a gift be justified as an educational expense? It could be considered a donation *after the fact*, and a motion was made, and approved that we give \$100 to the Center in the late spring, without prior notice to the Center.

V. a. *Curriculum:* Eleanor says that the Handbook should be complete in two weeks and *may* be ready to distribute at the Potluck.

Although Eleanor was unable to attend the reception for moderators, she thinks it went very well. And she reports that we will be able to have a spring seminar at the University's Renaissance Center.

Some fourteen to eighteen seminars have been approved by her committee, in addition to the "Encore Presentations" planned for the decennial celebration. After considerable discussion of the possibility of conflicts between these offerings and Great Decisions, it was moved, seconded and approved that the Curriculum and Special Events Committees work together to avoid conflicting times, possibly by scheduling the first "Encore Presentation" for February 5th, and the Great Decisions programs for late April and early May.

b. *January and Summer Programs:* Barbara reported that the four January events are confirmed and will be announced to members and the public, with the exception of the cooking instruction, which is limited to members. The fourth program will be the annual event in memory of those members who have died in the past year, with costs covered by the Memorial Fund.

There are six summer programs planned so far, and four more are being sought.

IV. (continued - in order to let Jay Melrose make his presentation and leave for an appointment)

Jay talked to us about the W6 System offered by Valley Communication Systems to permit direct sound from a mike worn by a speaker to an ear piece worn by a listener. Costs for the set-up he recommends are:

1 mike and transmitter	\$427.00
8 receivers @ \$75.46	603.68
8 buttons	70.00
6 boxes disposable covers	27.00
batteries	<u>20.00</u>
Total	\$1,147.68

In response to questions, Jay said that it seemed wise to try a small number of receivers with one transmitter until it was determined that the system was successful. He proposed that one person be named to keep track of the equipment, and one person in each seminar that requests its use to be responsible for getting it from the previous seminar. It was moved and seconded that we go with Jay's proposal for purchase of the equipment, and that he provide instructions for its use. A proposal that Memorial Funds be used for this purchase was met with general approval, and after thanks to Jay for his expertise and efforts, the motion to purchase the W6 System was approved.

c. *Special Events:* Diedrick will report to Thelma and Marcia the request for cooperation with the Curriculum Committee in scheduling great Decisions.

Ted said that nineteen people have signed up for the trip to Spain, and they still hope for more LIR members and friends to make up the twenty-eight needed. Another letter will go out to members. Pat Keating invited registrants to the sessions of her seminar that deal with Madrid, on December 8 and 15.

e. *Membership:* David asked about work on a new brochure, and wondered if his committee should work on this with the Curriculum Committee. Eleanor suggested that the members' section of the handbook could be worked on in the spring with the Membership Committee, although the moderators' section was virtually complete and shouldn't be delayed. The Membership Committee should be responsible for the preparation of a revised brochure, for submission to the Council for approval.

f. *Newsletter:* Jackie said that she is asking for reports on the fall seminars to be submitted for the first issue in 1999.

g. *Meetings:* Both Lora and Lee would like to resign as co-chairs after the December meeting, although Lee will continue on the committee. They hope that the Johnsons may be willing to chair. At the December Potluck, the spring catalogue will be distributed and the moderators introduced. (It was suggested that a calendar for the spring be included in the catalogue.) Announcements will be made of January programs and spring special events, as well as of the equipment for hearing assistance and its use.

VI. In response to Diedrick's concern about the numbers of events scheduled, various questions were raised: Do we recognize the social needs of members and also serve others? Are we more educational than service-oriented? Will activities be self-limiting? If we are very busy, how does that affect the office? Can we make more use of volunteers? Are we (or should we be) increasing outreach to others?

VII. Chuck asked if thought is being given to the difficulties to be caused by bridge reconstruction, and whether we might change the times of some seminars to avoid congested periods.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33. The next meeting will be held at Five Colleges, Inc., at 1:30 on Thursday, December 10th.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Keppler, Secretary