

Five College LIR Council
Minutes of the meeting of 2/12/98
Five Colleges, Inc.

Present were Ted Belsky, Ben Bowditch, Jack Glickman, Bob Grose, Marcia Holden, Anne Keppler, David Navon, Eleanor Reid, Paul Rothery, Barbara and Diedrick Snoek, Midge White, Charlotte Winston and Jackie Wisneski.

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by President Bob Grose, and the minutes of the January 8th meeting were approved after a "late correction" of the charge for single sessions of the Great Decisions Program, to \$9.00.

II. Charlotte presented a report on income and expenses for December and January, and a spread sheet for the year to date. She went over these in detail, and noted one unexpected charge from Amherst College for a late summer event. Jack urged that this be questioned, as the work referred to (setting up chairs on the patio) was not done because of rain, and several commented on the delay in submission. The bill had been sent directly to Five Colleges, Inc., so that neither Karen nor Jack saw it before payment. Also, the January speakers were paid directly by Five Colleges, Inc. some three weeks before the events, rather than having the checks sent to Karen to be given to the speakers at the events. Bob will call an advisory group together to consider a more effective system of assuring promptness, accuracy and authorization in the submission and payment of bills.

III. e. *Membership*: Ben's research shows that LIR has gained 5 to 7 members each year, and that we lose some and gain some every fall and every spring. He suggests that membership information be integrated with curricular data in the upcoming Handbook.

a. *Curriculum*: Eleanor reported that the committee discussed policy at their last meeting, and will continue this on March 5. At the end of that meeting, moderators will join the committee for wine and cheese, and consideration of their concerns.

The seminar on Wisdom has had to be cancelled because withdrawals left it too small to be viable. Eleanor says that there has been considerable instability this semester, and she hopes that members will stick with their choices in the future except in emergencies.

A report on the mud problem at the Field House brought a suggestion from Paul that LIR consider offering a truckload of gravel to Smith College, as a thank-you and a reminder that we need the parking lot.

Eleanor asked that each Council member speak to two LIR members about being a moderator or co-moderator. Bob supported her request, and noted that we would welcome science topics for seminars.

c. *Summer and Winter Programs*: Jack was given a round of applause for the success of the programs this year, and he and Dietrick were thanked for the Memorial Event. Jack said that he had had insufficient response to a proposed Variety Show, but that the rest of the plans for Summer 1998 were in good shape. He expects them to be ready for presentation in April.

d. *Special Events*: Ted reported that plans for the special workshop on aging are developing well, and that Harley's seminar members are enthusiastic. Highland Valley Elder Services hopes to have even more participants than they had originally expected, and they have arranged a good site for the workshop. Karen has agreed to handle registration and collect fees.

The Great Decisions programs are all set, and announcements and registration forms are being mailed today. Willits-Hallowell has offered to have fish and vegetarian meals available for those who observe Lenten dietary restrictions.

Foreign travel plans are well along, under the leadership of Paul Rothery and Florence Barondes. They are restricting consideration to trips costing under \$3000, and are now looking at options in Italy, Spain, France, Turkey and Ireland, for a trip in late May of 1999. Elderhostel is checking into specific sites. In order to ensure that all members of the group are prepared, we may need to invite another LIR to join with us in study and planning, unless enough of our own members indicate interest for themselves and/or their friends.

Ted asked again that moderators be urged to put in requests for special events promptly.

f. *Newsletter:* Jackie's deadline is March 15th for the issue which will come out in late March.

Publicity: Marcia said that an LIR member from Greenfield will follow up efforts to put notices in The Recorder.

g. *Meetings:* General meeting dates for the next twelve months were presented, and a question was raised about the choice of May 21, 1998, as possibly a bit late.

IV. a. Bob said that the New Salem Historical Society has asked, through Jean Stabell, if we could provide them with help in starting an autobiographical writing course. This is one form of outreach in which we can participate, and there probably are others.

b. Memorial Hall is likely to be available for our use, but parking is not settled. We haven't been offered any help with parking fees for the garage, and might have to use the top level with an elevator which is sometimes out of action. David offered to request for free parking, and would be willing to ask the new Provost to help arrange for our use of the Visitors' Center.

c. The earlier vote on assistance with seminar materials was reviewed and the limit of \$200 was agreed to refer more properly to one semester than to one seminar. Because the original statement included the statement that no precedent was being set, a revised statement was deemed sufficient. The following was considered and approved: Moderators may apply to the Curriculum Committee if they foresee extraordinary expenses in acquiring materials for a seminar, and the Committee may request authorization from the Council.

d. Barbara reminded the Council of the Conversations over Coffee scheduled for next week, and urged us all to come and participate.

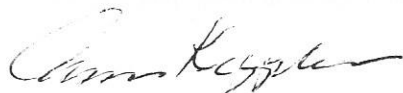
e. The Red Cross is quite willing to arrange a CPR course for our members, at a cost of \$45 a person, with no reduction for a group.

Those who are interested in a 55-Alive course are asked to call Barbara before the first of April.

V. A report from David Navon on copyright law was postponed to the next meeting, as we had been asked by Five College personnel to adjourn a little early. There was time to discuss briefly our priorities for a replacement computer and software. Dietrick and Harley will look at new ones, used ones from Smith, and upgrades. Council members agreed that we don't require very high tech equipment, but we do need more power and memory, and Windows, and appropriate software.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15. The next meeting will be held at Five Colleges, Inc. at 1:30 on Thursday, March 12.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Keppler, Secretary