

Five College LIR Council
Minutes of the meeting of March 11, 1999
at Five Colleges, Inc.

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

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by President Diedrick Snoek, and the minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and approved with a suggestion and an amendment. Karen will be asked to include job titles on the "announcement of a Council meeting", and Jean Unger will implement the plan for a pictorial seminar tree.

II. Diedrick reported that \$550.00 has been received in memory of Mary Egginton, and her family has been notified and is very pleased. Gregory Prince is expected to come to the celebratory banquet, at least for a while, and will "say a few words". Other presidents may or may not attend, but certainly will be represented, perhaps by people from the Deans and Deputies group. We need people for an arrangements committee, and Diedrick asked for suggestions. He also wants comments, in writing, for a draft report on our future needs for space and facilities.

The final Encore Presentation will be moved to another room in the same building at Hampshire, and Naomi will post someone to provide directions.

Our new audio equipment has been used by several members, to good effect, but needs to be more easily transported. Jono showed us a small padded carrier with a handle, and suggested that something similar be purchased. It is felt that a central microphone would be better for general discussions, and Jay is looking into this. An item should be added to our registration forms, asking if audio amplification would be helpful. We need volunteers to monitor the use of the equipment, and to receive and deliver it. We may buy another transmitter if we are fully satisfied with this one. It was moved and approved that Jono is authorized to buy a carrying case.

III. Treasurer Charlotte Winston distributed and went over the year-to-date report with details of the last five months. (This is the period her program will cover on one page.)

Bob Grose noted that our capital funds balance is now substantially less than one year's expenditures, although we have intended to maintain that amount in reserve. The Finance Committee will be asked to consider the question of an appropriate amount, and how to reach it.

The suggestion was made that the cost of a second transmitter be taken from the Memorial Fund, as Mary Egginton was active in the effort to procure audio equipment. There was consensus in favor of this, if and when such a purchase is made.

Diedrick feels that we should be represented at the first national EIN conference, ideally by the chair of the Curriculum Committee. The new chair is expected to be Lisi Armstrong, who is willing to go. It was moved and approved that her registration fee of \$200.00 be covered by LIR.

A budget for exhibits and for the wine and cheese portion of our anniversary celebration was distributed, as these are to be covered by LIR. The charge per person for the banquet probably will be \$20.00, to cover actual cost for a served, sit-down dinner, and help with the costs of guests. These include the five presidents or deans, Lorna Peterson and Jean Stabell, and a number of members and friends who were founders and early supporters. It was moved and approved that up to \$1000.00 be taken from the Memorial Fund to help with the costs to be borne by LIR. Peg Bedell was asked to seek maximum publicity for the occasion.

IV. a. *Curriculum:* Eleanor reported on the most recent committee meeting and the reception for moderators, both of which went well. Prospects for next fall are good, with proposals from several experienced and new moderators, some continuing seminars, and a few "shadow proposals". The Renaissance Center wants us to use their space again, which may be the first time we've been *invited* back. The committee plans to have a consulting team for each proposed seminar, including repeats.

Eleanor wants to have a June retreat for moderators and committee members, to discuss ways of ensuring high standards and good relationships between moderators and participants.

The Encore Presentations have been very well received, but Naomi has had some criticism of the request for contributions toward the cost of refreshments, because this is an anniversary program. Council reaffirmed the original decision.

b. Barbara reported that there will be eleven events from mid-June to mid-August, including three bus trips, and carpool trips to Tanglewood and a studio in Amherst. The program will be distributed at the general membership meeting. Pat announced a benefit performance for the Miniature Theatre, scheduled for a Sunday afternoon in late March.

c. *Special Events:* Marcia Silverman noted that there still are some spaces on the bus for the trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. At the urging of several members of Council, she agreed to try to extend the time available at the museum.

The speaker for the first Great Decisions program will be an economist from Smith, Mahnaz Mahdavi. The fee this year will be \$26.00 for all four programs, with the book and lunch extra.

Ted Belsky reported on the trip to Spain, with the good news that the Spanish hosts have agreed to a group of 19. He has had six inquiries from around the country, so there may be a few more participants. A plan will have to be made to get people back from New York, as some but not all are adding the Bilbao side trip. Florence Barondes and Paul Rothery did a lot of work on this experiment!

d. *Membership:* David Moriarty distributed a draft of the new brochure, and asked for comments and feedback. Once the content is set, Lee Beaty will proof read it, and Carol Angus will consult on the design. The proposed logo will include "our" tree and the names of the Five Colleges, with LIR inside the ring.

f. *Newsletter:* Jackie Wisneski announced that the next deadline is April 15.

V. Diedrick asked for names for a nominating committee, including a member of Council as chair. Chuck Gillies agreed to do this, and requested suggestions for the committee and for candidates

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35. The next meeting will be held at Five Colleges, Inc., at 1:30 on Thursday, April 8th.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Kepler, Secretary