

Five College LIR Council
Minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2000
at Five Colleges, Inc.

Present were Lise Armstrong, Peg Bedell, Ted Belsky, Chuck Gillies, Nylda Glickman, Jono Hanke, Thelma Isaacs, Amy Johnson, Pat Keating, Anne Keppler, David Moriarty, Eve Posada, Paul Rothery, Marcia Silverman, Barbara Snoek, Diedrick Snoek, Harley Unger, Charlotte Winston, Jackie Wisneski and Naomi Yanis.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 by President Pat Keating, and the minutes of the February 10th meeting were approved as corrected. The Finance Committee will consider ways to encourage use of the Donors Fund.
- II.
 1. Pat announced that the next meeting of Council would be on April 13th.
 2. The new editor of our Newsletter will be Linda Stairmand, whose mockup we had seen in February. Jackie graciously thanked her faithful committee for its service during her tenure, and was herself thanked again by Council.
 3. Amy announced the slate prepared by the Nominating Committee: for President-Elect, Barbara Snoek; for Secretary, Chuck Gillies; for Treasurer, Harley Unger. Diedrick said that the committee agreed that we will not replace lost ballots, and there will be a statement to that effect on the ballot. Moderators will be asked to request council nominations.
 4. Ted reported that the Committee on Committees (himself, Ed Buck, Naomi Yanis and Chuck Gillies) proposes a new Standing Committee on Special Programs. The committees on Special Events and on Conversations over Coffee would become subcommittees, as would those on Great Decisions, on Computers, and other interest groups, each with its own chair. The chair of the Standing Committee would be expected to attend Council meetings, with any subchair whose area of interest was to be discussed. The Committee on Committees distributed to Council proposals for changes to three By-Laws: (1) to insert "ad hoc" before committees which may be appointed by the President as needs dictate; (2) to change the number of members required for the Curriculum Committee to "15 to 18"; and (3) to substitute the Committee on Special Programs outlined above for the Committee on Special Events. For the committee, Ted proposed that the necessary By-Law changes be sent to the membership, and all three were approved for this action. In response to a request that the members of all committees be publicized, Ted said that he has such a list and will have it distributed.
 5. The question of summer coverage in the office was considered, and hope was expressed that we could get the same young woman who covered for us last year. However, she is now working in the Bursar's Office at Smith and may not be available. Karen plans to return to the office a week before Labor Day, and there was general agreement that seven weeks at three days a week from 9:00 to 12:00 will serve, with occasional extra hours when there is a planned event or trip.
- III.
 1. *Finance:* Charlotte presented her report on year-to-date income and expenses, indicating that we are on target. Her committee will consider how to encourage more use of the Donors Fund, perhaps asking members and prospective members to gauge their own need based on suggested income levels. The death of Jane Sherman last week was noted, and some members may want to make contributions in her memory. Ted will include a note about this in the obituary he has written for the Newsletter. The family has arranged a Memorial Service for Jane at Willits-Hallowell on April 9th, but no time has been set.
 2. *Curriculum:* Lise said that the meeting with moderators had gone well, with a report of evaluations from last fall's seminars. The committee has approved 17 seminars and 2 workshops for the fall, including the one on the two one-act operas and one on orientation of new members to LIR, to the Curriculum Committee, to seminars and to presentations. Expectations for participation in lotteried seminars may be written out, so that anyone "winning" a place will withdraw quickly if

(s)he knows more than one session will be missed, but the committee was urged to think this through before spelling it out. Would-be moderators will be expected to have been participants in at least one seminar beforehand. The committee is holding a brainstorming session with refreshments on March 30th, and all are invited to attend.

Lise presented a motion to recognize annually all moderators who have served for 10 or more seminars, with formal public announcement and a gift at a general meeting. After much discussion, it was decided to return this to committee for further consideration.

3. *Membership:* David said that the plans for an orientation workshop in the fall would be a good replacement for the meeting his committee had planned. He has written to the 34 new members this year to welcome them and offer assistance. He would like to clarify the expectations of LIR of and for its new members.
 4. *January programs:* Barbara reported that there will be 8 or 10 summer programs, including a visit to Eric Carle's studio, the Berkshire Opera Company, and a Tanglewood rehearsal.
 5. *Newsletter:* the next deadline is March 15th.
 6. *Meetings:* Pat announced for the Johnsons that dates have been set for the three general meetings next year. Depending on the availability of the Red Barn, we will meet on September 20 or 21, December 2, and May 9 or 10.
 7. *Special Events:* Marcia reported that the trip to Hartford was set, but the low registration may lose a little money. It was agreed that this was all right.
 8. *Conversations over Coffee:* Eve said that notice didn't go in the Five College calendar for March although she had sent it in early. Peg will follow up on this, and suggests that her committee be asked to submit notices to papers and the calendar in future, as they can get to know the relevant staff.
 9. *Publicity:* Peg said that the Gazette has done better with getting information in, but sometimes fails to note that we are sponsors. The newsletter of the Bangs Center had some real errors in an article recently, and it was suggested that Peg or members of her committee might pay visits to Councils on Aging in the area. They exist in Amherst, Hadley, South Hadley, Hatfield, Northampton, Easthampton, and other locations where we have or may have members.
- IV. 1. Chuck said that we have 60 people signed up for Great Decisions, which starts next week.
2. Ted recommended clarification of term limits for chairmen, with various suggestions for a maximum of 2 terms of 2 years or 1 term of 3 years. His Committee on Committees will review and present a proposal. They also will propose a sort of "job fair" for committees for the September meeting. There was a question about possibly separating Newsletter and Publicity, and the committee will look into this.
 3. Dues to EIN have not yet been determined, and we will consider renewing later.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30. The next meeting will be held at Five Colleges, Inc., at 1:30 on Thursday, April 13th.

Respectfully submitted,



Anne Keppler, Secretary