

# **FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT**

## **MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING**

**November 8, 2018**

**Five College Office, 97 Spring St., Amherst, MA**

Council Members Present: Ellen Kosmer (President), Jake Greenburg (Vice-President), Gordon Wyse (Past President), Kathy Campbell (Treasurer), Cynthia Barker (Secretary), Bob Cohen, Kip Fonsh, Linda Horn, Chris Hurn, Jonathan Jay, Terry Rosenfeld, Jay Russell

Committee Chairs and Others Present: Prunella Fiddian-Greene, Jim Harvey, Nancy Hayes Clune, Anne Lombard, Ilene Rosenfeld, Nina Scott, Karen Tatro, Sara Wright, and Tisha Ferguson

Council Members Absent: Margaret Russell, Shirlee Williams

The meeting was called to order by Ellen Kosmer at 2:15 p.m.

Ellen introduced our new Council members, Linda Horn and Kip Fonsh. Our new members are replacing Joanne Creighton and Pam Daniels who recently resigned from the Council.

The Council accepted the minutes, as amended, of the October 11, 2018 Council meeting.

### **Officers' Reports:**

#### President

Ellen is encouraging our Vice President to become involved with numerous committees.

Ellen announced that Chuck Aulino has resigned as Assistant Treasurer, Finance Committee member, and Executive Council member.

Ellen also reminded us that this is a great time to invite potential new members to attend the Preview.

#### Past President

Arrangements are complete for the Preview. Extra space will be available for the Curriculum Committee; if other committees would like additional space, please notify Gordon.

#### Treasurer

Kathy distributed the operating budget report. The purchase of a new computer is reflected in our expenses. Everything is going well.

#### Welcome Anne Lombard, Ombudsperson

Ellen introduced our ombudsperson, Anne Lombard. The role of this position was briefly reviewed, and Anne reminded us that the ombudsperson maintains confidentiality of issues brought to her attention.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Curriculum Committee:

The Committee is preparing for the Preview of 23 Spring seminars. Many of the committee members are moderators next spring, and will be busy staffing their assigned tables at the Preview. Consequently, the Committee needs additional assistance to hand out catalog packages, greet new people, and clean up at the end of the Preview.

The ad hoc development committee has prepared a 53 page description of seminars we have presented in the past, for the purpose of helping people come up with ideas for future seminars. They are also looking at other ways to recruit more people to become moderators. The availability of seminar venues is becoming an issue. This year we paid rent for 4 places. When our endowment fund was established, there was some thought that the monies might be used to support seminars.

Finally, the Curriculum Committee appreciates all of Tisha's work in assembling the catalog and finding suitable venues for seminars.

### Great Decisions

Prunella reported that the Committee has held three meetings this academic year. We have a new location confirmed for the Great Decisions program in the spring. The Committee thanked the Council for additional funding of \$1,500 to cover our expenses at the new location.

The committee is confident in three strong quality speakers for the program. They include:

1. Professor Gregory White, Smith College: The Middle East-Regional Disorder.
2. Professor Amir Houmansadr, UMass: Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics.
3. Professor Vincent Ferraro, Mt. Holyoke: Global Migration and the Rise of Populism (awaiting final confirmation from Vincent).

The Committee will work with Public Relations to publicize the 2019 programs. Amherst Copy has agreed to charge the same price (\$665) as last year for materials.

### Member Events

The Committee will make a proposal at the December Council meeting for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to be held next spring. Tisha suggested that the Committee ask Hadley Farms to tentatively reserve a few possible dates, as Hadley's spring calendar is filling up-i.e., April is not available. Tisha has assembled a group of founding documents that we could display at the celebration.

### Public Relations/Publicity

Nina Scott has sent out publicity materials about the Preview for inclusion in the Gazette and the Amherst Bulletin. We also have new business cards that will be available at the Preview. Terry Rosenfeld suggested that we ask the Gazette to publish an article about the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration; also, South Hadley has "The Town Reminder;" an article about the Preview might be helpful in that publication. An article about LIR immigrants is nearly complete and should be published by the Gazette in the spring.

### Special Programs

Ilene Rosenfeld reported that an Ad Hoc committee, under the direction of Jake Greenburg, is working on drafting revisions to the Special Programs/Special Events/Summer-Winter Programs entries in our Operations Manual.

The Book Interest Group, Encore Presentations, Viewpoints, and Opera Prep continue to meet, as planned. The theater interest group is researching upcoming theatrical presentations that might be of interest to our members.

### Summer/Winter Programs

Karen Tatro reported that there are four programs planned for the winter months—all are free or at minimal cost.

### Technology

The Forbes Library is presenting a no cost technology seminar, and will be announcing the details, soon.

### Special Projects and Events

We are not aware of any proposals that have been submitted to the committee.

### Office Manager

Tisha Ferguson reported that the spring catalog has been sent to the printers. Tisha will make the catalog available for viewing on our website the day after the Preview. Winter/Summer programs signup will be available online. We have also hired a new intern to assist Tisha in the office.

## Old Business

### Update on Committee descriptions in Operations Manual

Jake reported that an ad hoc committee is reviewing committee descriptions. They have noted various redundancies, discrepancies, and some information that is out of date. At the next Council meeting in December, Jake said we may have proposed recommendations for appropriate changes to the relevant documentation.

### Update on the creation of Membership/Development Committee

Jake provided a brief status and reported that we should have a proposal for consideration at one of the next two Council meetings.

## New Business

### Discussion of proposed amendment to 5CLIR Bylaws on Vacancy of Past President

Jonathan Jay provided a brief overview of the issue and his recommendation to amend our bylaws. Gordon Wyse moved that the Council present the proposed amendment to 5CLIR Bylaws, with 30 days' notice, to the membership for their approval. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Following is the text of the amendment to be presented to the membership at the next annual meeting:

Add to Article VI of the 5CLIR Bylaws, a new Section 6, to be entitled, "Vacancy in the Office of Past President":

Section 6. **Vacancy in the Office of Past President:** If a vacancy occurs in the office of Past President, the immediately previous Past President serves as Past President for the remainder of that term. If that individual is unwilling or unable to serve as Past President, the immediately previous Past President to her or him serves as Past President for the remainder of the term. If that individual is unable or unwilling to serve as Past President, the position remains vacant; and the President, with the approval of Council, appoints a member or members to exercise any of the responsibilities of the Past President, other than those relating to membership on the Council, Executive Committee, or other management committee or team, for the remainder of the term.

The Council thanked Jonathan for all of his work on this project.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Cynthia Barker, Secretary