

FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

December 13, 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, Chris Hurn, Jonathan Jay, Jay Russell, Margaret Russell

Committee Chairs and Others Present: Larry Ambs, Prunella Fiddian-Green, Mary Franks, Nancy Hayes Clune, Wendy Parrish, Ilene Rosenfeld, and Tisha Ferguson

Council Members Absent: Linda Honan, Terry Rosenfeld, Shirlee Williams

The meeting was called to order by Ellen Kosmer at 2:23 p.m.

The Council accepted the minutes, as amended, of the November 8, 2018 Council meeting.

Officers' Reports:

President

Ellen reported that the Executive Committee discussed the Preview and believes that we need a more visible space for committee tables. Kathy Campbell believes that we can accommodate all committee and seminar tables in the main area in the future. Jake also noted that Hampshire College might have better space available.

Vice President

Jake has recently attended many committee meetings. Later in this meeting Jake will be sharing a status report about updates to Committee descriptions in the Operations Manual and an update on the creation of a Membership/Development Committee.

Past President

Gordon Wyse reported that our Memorial Service is scheduled for Jan. 3, 2019 at the Amherst Alumni Hall. If you wish to speak at the service, please notify Gordon.

Committee Reports:

Curriculum Committee:

The Committee reports that the lottery for spring seminars has been successfully completed. We are pleased to report that everyone received their first choice. There is a wait list for 6 seminars. Special thanks to Jim Harvey for his leadership. A full report from the Curriculum Committee is attached to the minutes.

Great Decisions

Prunella reported that we have three speakers lined up for Great Decisions 2019, and we are working on publicity for the program. Special thanks to Tisha for all of her assistance. Rich Parrish has prepared a draft proposal for a Partnership between 5CLIR and the UMass-Amherst Political Science Department for the spring of 2020. In the interim, Hadley Farms is a back-up location for Great Decisions 2020, and they are holding four dates for us in April, 2020.

Member Events

The LIR Anniversary Celebration will be held April 4, 2019 from 4P.M. to 6P.M. at Hadley Farms. The estimated cost of the event is \$3,000-\$4,000. We are awaiting cost estimates for food and musical entertainment.

Public Relations/Publicity

Nina Scott was unable to attend the meeting, but forwarded status information to Ellen for our meeting. The Public Relations Committee has run into some snags with the Gazette. Although Nina filed the Preview information in plenty of time, it did not appear in either the Gazette or the Bulletin, though Phyllis Lehrer announced the Preview in her Amherst Bulletin column. Nina has made contact at the Gazette with Chris Goudreau who is in charge of the calendar; he said our announcement probably fell through the cracks, as he was still learning the system just before the preview. Nina had a good conversation with him and hopes that things will be better in the future.

Special Programs

Ilene Rosenfeld introduced Wendy Parrish, Ilene's successor as chair of the committee. Our Fall Encore Presentations were well attended. The Book Interest Group, Opera Prep, and Viewpoints with Hy Edelstein continue to meet. A full report from the committee is attached to the minutes.

Summer/Winter Programs

Registrations for the Winter Programs are coming in. We may have a Forum with legislators.

Special Projects and Events

In the December Newsletter Ellen encouraged our members to submit proposals for Special Projects and Events.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will meet next month. We have four Officer positions to fill for the next year: Vice President, Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer, and Secretary. Tisha noted that we currently have four nominees for new Council members.

Office Manager

Tisha Ferguson reported that the seminar class lists will be distributed next Monday. The Winter Programs offerings that had participation limits are now full. Tisha reported that the Bach Festival this spring will include a pre-concert talk that LIR members can attend before the major concert; we will also have a block of tickets to sell. Tisha will now hand this project off to the Special Programs Committee.

Old Business

Update on Committee descriptions in Operations Manual

Jake thanked the committee for all of their work in updating committee descriptions. Jake also reviewed progress to date, and received a few suggestions from the Council for modifications. Jake asked that we all review the revised descriptions that have been distributed, and notify him of any additional changes before we vote on the final revisions at the next Council meeting.

Update on the creation of Membership/Development Committee

Jake provided a brief status report. Much of the discussion thus far has focused on managing communications. The Ad hoc committee is in the process of preparing a committee description that can be presented at the February meeting. We are also starting to think about possible candidates to chair the new committee.

Update on plans for LIR Anniversary Celebration

The event will be held at Hadley Farms (4:00 P.M. to 6 P.M) on April 4, 2019. We will be mailing printed invitations for the event; we will not specifically invite spouses, partners, and significant others. Food offerings will include hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, and soda. LIR memorabilia will be on display, and we will solicit notes from Past Presidents to include in the display. Transportation will be available from Lathrop, Rockbridge, and Applewood. We will have musical entertainment. Ellen will be making a brief speech.

New Business

Are there any concerns or issues that council members/committee chairs would like LIR to address?

Ellen encouraged everyone to think about issues/concerns that we should discuss. Jay Russell mentioned a suggestion he received from Nancy Mihevc. We should send thank you notes to our sponsors. In addition, we agreed to send a floral arrangement to Applewood and Loomis for their outstanding support of LIR.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55P.M.

Cynthia Barker, Secretary

Curriculum Committee Report to Council December 13, 2018

The Curriculum Committee is pleased to report that the Preview of Spring Seminars went well and attendance was good. The CC appreciates the additional assistance from members of Council.

Curriculum Committee co-chairs and CC member Kip Fonsh met yesterday to validate lottery results, and the procedure for verification of lottery results went very smoothly and is complete.

Tisha is continuing to add seminar enrollments that came in after the lottery deadline, so the seminar lists are still in process and will be finalized soon.

We can report that everyone got their first choice and every person who registered with another got into the seminar they chose. There were 472 registrations, and seminars still open will be posted on the website by Monday. About half the seminars are full, and half have space left. At the moment there is a wait list for 6 seminars – but this changes as registrations are input.

The lottery process went very smoothly. The CC thanks Tisha for her great work on the catalog, on the Preview, and on the Lottery.

Special Programs Report to Council – December 13, 2018

An Ad Hoc committee, under the direction of Jake Greenburg, has completed revisions to the Member Services/Special Programs/Special Events/Summer-Winter Activities descriptions in the 5CLIR Operations Manual. These revisions have been reviewed by the Executive Council.

The Book Interest Group's next meeting is Friday, January 4, to discuss *Clementine*, by Sonia Parnell. The group is open to new members, but the hostesses have limited space, so it's first-come-first-served for each meeting. For further information, contact Naomi Yanis.

Nancy Mihevc and Glenn Swanson have facilitated our Fall Encore Presentations. The presentations were well attended. More presentations will be scheduled for the winter and into the spring. Our venue is at the Applewood Retirement Community from 10:00 AM to 12 PM. Reminders will be emailed to our membership, listed in the 5CLIR Reporter, and available on www.5CLIR.org.

Opera Prep, with Peg Bedell, meets on the Fridays preceding the HD Live Operas shown at the Hadley Cinemark. The schedule continues into May 2019, and will be online at www.5CLIR.org. The next meeting is tomorrow, December 14 for *La Traviata* on Saturday December 15. Meetings are at the Inn at Easthampton Lathrop, Garden Room, from 2:00- 3:00PM.

Viewpoints, moderated by Hy Edelstein, continues to meet on the first Thursday of every month at 12:30 PM at Highland Valley Elder Services in Florence.

Respectfully submitted,
Ilene Rosenfeld, Chair