

5CLIR COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 11, 2007

MINUTES

Next Meeting: November 8, 2007

Present: Marybeth Bridegam, Mary Franks, Arnold Friedmann, Gail Gaustad, Joan Hastings, Kathy Hazen, Ruth Hooke, Charlie Klem, Sheila Klem, Philippe Meyer, Barbara Reitt, Peter Reitt, Serene Rubin, Jim Scott, Nina Scott, Leo Sartori, Eleanor Shattuck, Bill Williams, Sara Wright

Absent: Jeff Caplan, Chuck Gillies, Wil Hastings, Sally Lawton, Leo Sartori

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by **President Mary Franks** who delivered a short welcome.

Minutes of the September Council meeting were approved as corrected. Corrected minutes were sent to all Council members by Kathy Hazen who served as Secretary pro-tem for that meeting.

Treasurer's Report: There is not a statement for 30 September, but revenues are about \$6,000 under the amount projected for this point in the fiscal year, as we have not yet reached the number of members on which our annual budget is based

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A suggestion was made that LIR Founders be guests of the organization for the Anniversary Dinner currently being planned. The President asked to postpone this discussion until October when the Anniversary Dinner committee report will be presented to Council for discussion. Council agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curriculum Committee: Ten seminars have been submitted and accepted and two more were submitted by 11 October. The committee will continue to follow up on conversations with potential moderators and will invite to the Moderators Reception members who have expressed an interest in moderating or show qualities that would make a good moderator. The Moderators Reception is on 18 October from 1:30 to 3:30 at Smith Field House. The deadline for spring seminar proposals is 29 October. Blank proposal forms along with seminar evaluation forms have been sent to current moderators. Seminar participants will be urged to consider moderating or co-moderating a seminar of their own. More proposals are definitely needed.

Public Relations: Jim Scott gave the oral report for this committee. He and Nina did a presentation about LIR at Mt. Holyoke College to pre-retirees using a power point presentation that Chuck Gillies developed. It went very well. Jim and Nina Scott and Wil Hasting will be representing LIR as volunteers for the WFCR (public radio) fund drive on 9 November from 6 to 9:00 a.m. Kathy Coulombe will volunteer later that day.

The name of the “Meet the Moderators” event has been changed to “**5CLIR Preview: Coming Attractions**” It will take place November 18th at the Carroll Room and Wilson Atrium in the Smith College Campus Center. A special letter will go out to the 28 Trial Members encouraging re-enrolling for the spring semester. The committee will continue outreach efforts developing materials that will promote the organization.

Summer/ Winter Programs: Gail Gausted reported that the committee had it’s first meeting on 28 September. January programs are being planned including a trip to Pequot Museum, a snow-shoe and cross-country ski outing, a visit to the Rare Book Room at Smith College, a political program with our representatives speaking, and seeing the Music Man production. A catalog of programs will be included in the packet at the 5CLIR Preview: Coming Attractions.

Membership and Meetings Committee: Both Sheila Klem and Kathy Hazen reported for this committee. A strategy meeting will be held on 17 October, with a full committee meeting in November. Committee members will be asked which aspect of the committee’s work they would prefer working on. We will keep in close contact with the office and the PR Committee regarding membership status and issues. To date there are 58 new and 28 trial memberships. The New Members Tea took place on 23 September which 32 new members attended. New members will encouraged to become a part of this committee. Plans were made for the January LIR Luncheon at Willetts Hollowell.

Ruth Hooke suggested that members of Council should serve on a committee. This request has never been made. Mary asked to table this discussion for the time being, but this idea should be discussed.

Technology Committee: A January ’08 computer workshop will be held at Smith Computer Lab although the specific date is not yet available. It’s focus will be using the internet to do presentations. The new web sight is completed but not on line. The committee is setting up a hotline to help the membership with computer and software problems. It will be a new email address to ask questions. A new member, John Howland has joined the committee. He is a software engineer.

Special Programs: A few changes in the membership and structure have been made. Gale Gausted has now joined Marybeth Bridegram as Co-Chair. Three people have left the committee and Larry Ambs has joined. The October committee meeting, tomorrow, will finalize the Winter/Spring semester. Many of the Fall Semester offerings will continue and new offerings will likely include 2 concerts with preparatory talks at UMass, a Spanish Conversation group, a tour of the Amherst College Japanese Garden and film with Ray Moore in late May followed by a seminar on Japan in the fall and hopefully a trip to Japan. This is just a sampling. The 18 November 5CLIR Preview will have a full listing.

Long Range Planning: Joan Hastings reported that the scheduled forums will take place 26 October at the Smith Field House, and 2 November at the UMass Extension building. By meeting on each side of the river, it is hoped more people will be able to attend. The survey will be included in the November Bulletin so that people who could not make either session will give their feedback on LIR’s future. The committee will collate and summarize the results for presentation at the December Council meeting.

Callie’s Report: Mary Franks read Callie’s report which discussed dropping and wait lists for seminars. A couple of people did not join LIR because they could not get into their choice of seminar and would not be on a wait list, while members waited until after sessions started to drop a seminar. Callie noted that at the

moment, only 25 full members and 6 associate members do not use email which is an improvement over last year. Eleanor Shattuck has very kindly donated her beautiful, brand new Epson scanner to LIR. Thank you.

In the discussion of Callie's report, it was noted that seminars are often hard to get. The hope was that many Special Program offerings would help alleviate some of the pressure. A suggestion was to back up the development time line for the curriculum and special programs committees to ease the crunch. Ruth Hook Pasked if the two were in competition, which doesn't seem to be the case. Sara Wright noted that with one year's investment, an Associate Member got a bargain with Special Programs since for \$50 one could participate in as many as one liked without doing seminar preparations. Marybeth Bridegam suggested that scheduling flexibility could work well for people who go away in the winter and would like to participate when they return which would make them full year members rather than dropping out second semester.

Old Business: Kathy Hazen and Sara Wright went as LIR representatives to the opening reception for the new Council on Aging building in Northampton. Callie sent a card from LIR. Their facility can only be used for a program also open to their members. We could hold our "Preview" programs there. There are no rentals yet available.

Mary Franks suggested that as many committee chairs as possible get their reports into Callie in a timely fashion so that Council time could be used for discussion and new business rather than reviewing the past.

New Business: Kathy Hazen noted that January 8, 2008 is the date for LIR Holiday Party. It is the 1st Tuesday in January. Does this conflict with the Memorial Service which is scheduled for the 1st Thursday of the month. The consensus of Council was that there was no conflict between the programs.

Philippe Meyer questioned if Associate Members could serve on committees. This may not be mentioned in the By-Laws since this member category is newer than the By-Laws. The Long Range Planning committee, which will summarize member feedback about our programs, will make recommendations for changes. Once these changes are approved by the Council, the By-Laws will be redone and simplified. The issue of Associate members serving on committees will be considered in the By-Law revision.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Serene Rubin, Secretary