

5CLIR COUNCIL MEETING

December 18, 2007

MINUTES

Next Meeting: February 14, 2008

Present: Arnold Friedmann, Chuck Gillies, Joan Hastings, Will Hastings, Ruth Hooke, Sheila Klem, Philippe Meyer, Peter Reitt, Serene Rubin, Leo Sartori, Bill Williams, Sara Wright

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by **Vice President Leo Sartori**.

Minutes: A point was raised that the committee reports “came after the fact” and therefore they did not always reflect what was reported at the Council meeting. It was noted that future minutes should reflect what was actually said at the meeting rather than including the written reports which are not part of the official record. Committee reports should be sent to Callie before Council meets so that they can be forwarded to all Council members. Minutes of the November meeting were approved as amended.

President’s report: Due to Mary Franks absence, the President’s report was read by Leo. Mary took this opportunity to thank the committee heads, moderators, Eleanor Shattuck for heading up the Nominating committee, and Leo for jobs well done.

Vice President’s Report: Leo announced that Endowment Fund checks have been returned and that item is now closed. The Memorial Service will be held January 31st at Amherst College Alumni House. He would like someone who knew the person being remembered to say a few words about that person.

Treasurer’s Report: There is no change in our financial situation this month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Curriculum Committee: Sara Wright reported that there is a need to train moderators, especially those who are new to this role. A panel discussion as part of the moderators receptions was proposed. There would be two “moderators receptions” -- the fall reception would follow the format currently used, but the spring session would become a training session in a form to be developed by the Curriculum Committee. It was agreed that it would be a good to get this idea out to the membership.

Public Relations: Chuck Gillies reported that the committee did only external publicity. Information to members is disseminated through the newsletter, separate mail-outs, etc. He reported on upcoming events that the committee will be involved in publicizing this spring and commented that although people were happy with the Smith College “Previews” site there still is a desire to alternate with the “other side of the river.” Ruth Hooke volunteered to call the Fish and Wildlife Center to ask if their space would be available and appropriate. Chuck noted that we are running out of Brochures which is timely for us. He also interviewed Leo and is hoping to get that article published. Jim Foudy of the Hampshire Gazette was mentioned as a contact for Chuck.

Summer/ Winter Programs: No report at this time.

Membership and Meetings Committee: Plans are in place for the January 8, 2008 Holiday Luncheon, at the Willits-Hallowell Center of Mt. Holyoke College.

Technology Committee: New audio equipment (speakers, mixers, etc.) is now available for use. Contact Pete Reitt directly if this equipment can be used in a presentation, special program or event.

Special Programs: No report at this time

Long-range Planning: Joan Hastings requested that her report be given in conjunction with the By Laws update.

Great Decisions: All is in place for this next series.

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT: No report at this time.

OLD BUISNESS

Leo suggested that the cost for special guests at the Anniversary Gala on October 4, 2008 be paid out of the treasury. Moved, seconded and passed unanimously. He also noted that Honoree' was able to arrange free music for that affair.

By-Laws: Wil Hastings has agreed to draft a revision of our current by-laws. A ad hoc committee will review this document for Council discussion and get it ready to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. A policy handbook, to be developed later, would contain pertinent information not included in the new by-laws. The organization name change as proposed by the Long Rang Planning Committee will need to be included in the new by-laws. The understanding is that we would maintain Council election procedures but get rid of extraneous material in an effort to go back to simplicity. Programs and the management of programs will be deleted along with much extraneous historic material. By-laws should not attempt to define the future. At the past presidents request, it was moved and seconded that the Council request Wil Hastings prepare a new draft of the 5 CLIR by-laws which will retain the fundamental procedures by which Council is elected, but avoid extraneous material and be simpler than the current version. It is furthermore noted that the President appoint a committee to vet the draft for Council discussion at the February meeting, going out to the membership by April 25th so that it can be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Long-Range Planning: Joan gave an overview of the questions and issues with suggested assignments for further work in these areas. 1) Reconfirmed our mission statement – shared active learning and seminars are the key points of our organization. 2) Visitors to Seminars – encouraged with development of the guidelines going to the Curriculum Committee. 3) Name Change to 5 College Life Long Learning -- separate name change from by-law changes and present them as separate motions to the membership. 4) Membership Structure – need to revisit this, especially the Associate Member category, in terms of how much money the organization needs. Suggests forming an ad hoc committee consisting of 2 Finance Committee members, 2 Membership Committee

members and whomever else the President names, to thrash this out 5) Formats for Seminars and Special Programs -- the chairs of the Curriculum and Special Program Committees to meet and develop a weekly template of programs and to discuss these points. Sara Wright will contact Gail Gaustad and Marybeth Bridegam to get this underway. 6) Develop a Fundraising Committee – The Finance Committee will work on this. Council agreed with the points named.

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Serene Rubin, Secretary