

**FIVE COLLEGES LEARNING IN RETIREMENT
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the 5CLIR Council was held on Thursday, February 10 at the UMASS Transit Facility in Amherst, MA.

Present: Larry Ambs, Dave Cramer, Laura Cranshaw, Peter Ferber, Mary Franks, Arnold Friedmann, Dorothy Gorra, Sheila Klem, Joan Laird, Sandy Muspratt, Dean Poli, Janet Price, Dorothy Rosenthal, James Scott, Beverley von Kries, Joan Wofford, Michael Wolff, Sara Wright.

Call to Order: President Larry Ambs called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as distributed.

Remarks by the President: The draft of the Operations Manual has been sent to all chairs and, once their corrections are in, it will be given to Bobbie Reitt for editing. The Civil War event is going forward and promises to be outstanding. Five Colleges, Incorporated has filed two proposals for grants to support the program.

Report of the Vice-President: Joan Wofford had nothing to comment on at this time.

Technology Committee Report: Janet Price referred Council to the written report submitted previously (on file with these minutes).

Curriculum Committee Report: Mary Franks reported that Felicia Barber resigned from the committee and has been replaced by Ruth Hooke. Of 24 seminars in the catalog, two were cancelled because of small enrollments, 11 are full, and 11 have one or more vacancies. The Moderators Meeting on March 31 will be a Seminar Planning Session and will be held in the Meeting House at Northampton Lathrop.

Public Relations Committee Report: The posters are completed but somehow did not make it to the meeting. The members of the committee have resigned. Discussion of the Public Relations Committee was deferred to the new business portion of the agenda.

Summer/Winter Programs Report: Dorothy Gorra reported that most programs were cancelled due to the weather and the committee is now working on programs for the summer.

Membership Committee Report: Sheila Klem reported that the coffee for new members was cancelled because of weather and was not rescheduled because the room at Northampton Lathrop was not available. Nineteen new members had signed up to attend the coffee. All new members have been contacted by phone and expressed appreciation for the personal touch. The committee is working on the brunches scheduled for April 14.

Special Programs Committee Report: Sara Wright reported that the committee is looking at all of the special programs and considering what constitutes a special program as well as the question of criteria for seminars or interest groups that want to continue to meet as a group. Members of the Genealogy Seminar will continue to meet on a monthly basis as a discussion group. Dottie Rosenthal reported that the Science Roundtable will

have its first meeting on February 17. At this time, 24 people have asked to be placed on the list.

Office Manager's Report: There was no report.

Great Decisions Committee Report: Dave Cramer said that all five speakers have been confirmed and plans for the series are in good shape. Because the Northampton Senior Center is reopening its bistro, meals will not be served in connection with Great Decisions. However, those who would like to eat in the bistro following the sessions can call the center to make a reservation. Callie has provided envelopes and addresses and the committee will do the work of putting the brochures together and sending them out. The committee will be showing a video about the Civil War program and also may have videos about some of the seminars. They are searching for a work/study student to handle the audiovisual equipment.

Development Committee Report: Most members have been away. Dave hopes to reassemble the committee in March.

Finance Committee Report: Sandy Muspratt distributed a sheet showing revenues and expenses to date. Almost all revenues for the year are now in and the report shows that we are very close to that budgeted for dues. He concludes that it is a very good thing that we raised the dues and that recruitment remains a high priority for our financial outlook. Our outlook at this time has been helped by gifts, which were in excess of the amount budgeted. He reminded Council that personnel expenses would increase considerably next year.

Past President's Report: Sara reported that 23 potential new members attended the Spring Preview. Ten came after seeing the ad in the Gazette, 11 because friends invited them, and 2 did not answer the question. Of the 23, five have joined, three of whom came because of the ad. The cost of the food service for the preview was \$743.00, \$200.00 of which was for set up. More set up was required than would usually be the case because the preview was held close to Thanksgiving when Amherst College had other events going on.

Five people were honored at the Memorial Program. Sara asked for suggestions for changes in the format, but everyone seemed pleased with the current practice.

The Annual Report has been sent out to Council. There was discussion about how to make copies available to the general membership without incurring large printing/ mailing costs. It was agreed that much of this could be done via the internet/website but the Executive Committee will discuss how to handle this.

Old Business:

Peter Ferber reported that the slate of officers for 2011-2012 will be: Larry Ambbs – past president; Joan Wofford – president; Jim Harvey – vice president/president elect; James Muspratt – treasurer; Dave Cramer – assistant treasurer; and Ellen Peck – secretary.

New Business:

1. Larry presented the proposed block schedule for 5CLIR activities, which had been approved by Council. Some suggestions were made to make the schedule more accurate and clearer.

Motion: Sandy moved that the block schedule, with changes discussed, be adopted for a trial period of two years beginning with fall, 2011. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. **Motion:** Sandy moved that a cash advance of up to \$1500 may be made to a member who anticipates incurring substantial expenses greater than \$400 on behalf of 5CLIR in his/her function as organizer, facilitator or moderator of a program or event and that such a cash advance must be approved by the treasurer and one other officer and that the expenses so incurred be receipted and recorded in accordance with the established procedures.

The motion was tabled pending input from Five Colleges, Incorporated on the proposed motion.

3. There was discussion of the Public Relations Committee and various proposals were advanced to deal with this function of 5CLIR. In closing the discussion, Larry appointed an ad hoc committee to review the options and bring a proposal back to Council. Members of the committee are Joan Wofford (chair), Peter Ferber, Mary Franks, Dean Poli, Dottie Rosenthal, and Sara Wright

The meeting was adjourned 2:15 p.m.

Dorothy Rosenthal, Secretary

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2011
*******2:30-4:30 PM*******
FIVE COLLEGES OFFICE