



Council Minutes
February 18, 2025
9:30am - 10:56am
Via Zoom

Council & Committee Members Present:

Robert Beaury, Kayla Bell, Carmela Gersbeck, Robert Inghish, Carol Goss,
Karen Kane, Mary McClellan, Cathy Reinis, Susan Simon, Michael Weinstock, Eleanor Wieder
Guests: Anne Botsford, Barbara Danish, Gloria Fox, Felice Gelman, Martha Honey, Collin Lovas,
Jill Lundquist, Grace McKay, Chuck Mishaan, Jackie Olivet, Kathy O'Connor, Linda Scherr

Council & Committee Members Absent: Lynda Christensen

Call to Order

President Robert Beaury called the meeting to order at 9:30 am

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes, Council Meeting January 21, 2025 by Michael,
seconded by Carmela, All in favor

Secretary Correspondence

Susan reported:

- no postal mail received, all emails received forwarded to appropriate Council Member

Treasurer's Report

Karen reported:

- No activity in January, income (as of 1/21/25) \$9,451.50 although expenses haven't been included (net income of \$600 budgeted). Bard accounting figures are different: they aren't taking the anniversary party expenses into account and there is an issue with cancelled bills and the rebilling going directly to Bard. Treasurer does not see the revised invoices nor do the billing dates match with the event dates. There has also been an increase in weekly hospitality amounts, again, these going directly to the Bard accounting department. Working on resolving these issues
- Bard LLI received a \$50 donation from the Jewish Communal Fund
- We will be adopting a tentative budget for 2025-26 in March. This preliminary budget to be discussed and adopted at the April Council meeting.

Tech Training

Carmela:

- Created a an 8+ minutes training video on the LLI class registration process in ProClass

Business

Mary:

- Spring Semester (Update)
 - Ready to go! The priority pre-registration opens @ 9am on March 27th, followed by regular registration on March 28th. Zoom classes begin on March 6th through April 17th, in-person classes begin on March 7th through April 18th

Robert B:

- Liaison to Bard CCE - Right to vote on Council (Vote, Revise Bylaws)
 - Discussed "Liaison" is not mentioned in the bylaw, rather "ex-officio" so we need to adjust "ex-officio" to "Liaison" as part of the revision, as recommended by Long Range Planning Committee
 - Discussion to give Jill (current liaison) the right to vote on Council once we revise bylaws in March

Motion to revise bylaw to add liaison and delete ex officio, also give right to vote to liaison by Eleanor, seconded by Carmela, All in favor

- Reduce number of Members at Large to two (Vote, Revise Bylaws)
 - Discussed streamlining from 4 to 2, consider expanding the duties, reviewed Linda's proposed ideas for the roles of Members at Large bringing new considerations into the mix, Long Range Planning Committee previously discussed increasing the responsibilities and visibility
 - Several members feels this idea needs to be revisited, needs more time to develop
 - The Member at Large position is a source to bring people onto Council
 - We will stay at 4 Members at Large for now - any changes aren't valid until adopted by membership in May, therefore 4 Members at Large will be in place until the 2026 election

Motion to reduce to 2 Members at Large to be effective for the election cycle in March 2026, when no Member at Large will be on the ballot by Mary, seconded by Carmela, All in favor

- P&E re-characterized as a team under VP2 (Vote, Revise Bylaws)
 - Eleanor & Jill discussed the history of P&E and how it became a standing Committee
 - The P&E Committee is redundant and has been for years. We can re-characterize it as a team under the 2nd Vice President and can be activated when necessary.

Motion to re-characterize P&E as a team under the 2nd Vice President by Carmela, seconded by Robert I., 9 in favor, 2 opposed, motion carries

Note: To amend the Members at Large and the P&E Committee structures, as per the LLI by-laws, we need to give membership a 30 day notice of any proposed changes, 2/3 of the members participating in the voting needs to approve the changes, to be effective.

Carol:

- Bylaws team (Set up)
 - Setting up the team: Carol, Grace, Robert B.
 - Zoom meeting next week
 - Council will vote on the amended bylaws in March and then the bylaws will be sent to the membership ahead of the vote.

Robert B:

- Set date for Annual Meeting (last year: Thursday, May 16th, Olin Hall)
 - Council agrees, Annual Meeting will be on Thursday, May 15th, 8:30-11:30am, Olin Hall
 - There is no Council meeting in May (Annual Meeting instead)

- Recognition of Presenters effective 9/1/25 discussion
 - This idea is just a suggestion
 - LLI used to have events for presenters & producers, then these parties expanded and everyone from LLI is now invited, so some presenters feel they aren't being properly recognized
 - Consider: Full course (7 weeks) presenters get a \$50 discount on their LLI membership
 - Discussion: Everyone contributes to LLI in a different way so wouldn't they all get the discount? Those who contribute are doing it as a labor of love, the joy it brings them.
 - Discussion result: Not going ahead with this idea and presenters, etc. will be recognized at the LLI Anniversary Celebration

- Charge members a nominal fee for holiday party and summer picnic discussion
 - If we collect a fee there are many other factors to consider: tickets, payment methods, collecting, etc. Are our social events problematic expenses?
 - Resume the discussion of this idea at March meeting

Eleanor:

- P&E 25th anniversary celebration logistics update
 - Meeting w/Parkhurst on Thursday 2/27 & will get more things in place then

Felice, Martha, Linda:

- Proposal for a Special Series discussion
 - Suggesting that LLI Council approve a Special Speakers Series, ad hoc events that would take place 2 or 3 times a year
 - If Council approve this concept, an ad hoc committee would be appointed to create a framework considering who should decide on our events, talk with other potential partners-collaborating w/others to present these events
 - How much would we charge for these events, especially if we want hospitality and how would it fit in the budget? If the series is on Zoom then hospitality costs wouldn't be an issue. Most agree that going off campus is a hassle, inc. add'l expenses such as insurance
 - Each event/speaker would have to be considered individually and speakers do not get paid
 - Felice and company will report to Council in April on progress

Motion to approve to consider Special Series by Eleanor, seconded by Carmela, All in favor

Jill:

- DEI/Social Justice and the New Order
 - Referencing a Daily Catch article about Bard renaming initiatives, resulted in Jill reaching and out to Bard meeting with Erin Canaan at CCE regarding what changes should LLI make to be aligned with Bard
 - *(as OK'd by Erin)*, Jill is proposing that DEI be renamed Civic Engagement Team *(as suggested by Cathy O'Connor)*

Motion to approve renaming DEI to Civic Engagement Team by Mary, seconded by Carmela, All in favor

Note: Jill will review LLI website and make a list of any DEI to Civic Engagement Team items that need editing

Existing Policies for Review

- **FIN 12/22**
Eliminated ...”based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee” since there is no longer a Finance Committee. Policy renamed FIN 11/22A

Motion to revised FIN 12/22 by Carmela, seconded by Mary, All in favor

- **FIN 12/21**
No Changes
- **ORG 2/22B**
No Changes

Reports on File:

Vice Presidents' reports
Curriculum Committee
Governance - Finance
Membership Development
Program Support
CCE Liaison Report
DEI/Social Justice Team
Communications Team
P&E Committee

Mary McClellan, VP1 and Carol Goss, VP2
Mary McClellan
Karen Kane
Robert English
Carmela Gersbeck
Jill Lundquist
Laura Brown

Eleanor Weider

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Susan, seconded by Carmela - all in favor
Robert adjourned the meeting at 10:56am

Next LLI Council Meeting: Monday, March 17, 2025 @ 9:30am/Zoom

Submitted by,
Susan Simon, Secretary