



Council Minutes
July 21, 2025
9:30am - 10:49am
Via Zoom

Council & Committee Members Present:

Robert Beaury, Carmela Gersbeck, Karen Kane, Collin Lovas, Jill Lundquist, Mary McClellan, Grace McKay, Chuck Mishaan, Susan Simon, L. Walker, Michael Weinstock, Eleanor Wieder
Guests: Felice Gelman, Martha Honey, Cathy Reinis, Linda Scherr

Council & Committee Members Absent: Kayla Bell

Call to Order

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

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes, Council Meeting June 16, 2025 by Mary, seconded by Carmela, All in favor

Secretary Correspondence

Susan reported:

- No postal mail received, all emails received will continue to be forwarded to appropriate

Treasurer's Report

Karen reported:

- Some event invoices still pending
- Fiscal year ended in June, still working on 2024-25 Budget Report and 2025-26 Budget Report for Council approval

Tech Training

Carmela reported:

- Nothing new to report

Business

- Appointed Collin Lovas to the position of First Vice President to serve through June 30, 2026, Consented by Council & Collin
- Appointed L. Walker to the position of Chair, Membership Development committee, Consented by Council & Lyn
- Welcomed new Council members, Grace, Chuck, Collin and Lyn
- Resignation of Robert English
 - Thanked for his 9 years of service

Robert & Jill

- Recording classes (Update)
 - Robert & Jill met w/Bard
 - LLI Does not record classes, either in-person or via Zoom, in alignment with Bard

Eleanor:

- P&E 25th anniversary celebration (Update)
 - 207 guests (inc. the “plus 1’s”)
 - Usually a 20% no-show, so ordered food for 160 guests which gave us quite a cost savings

Robert:

- Distinguished Speaker Series team (Q&A)
 - Details needed regarding the OLLI offer (what was discussed, by whom?), and documented. The team should not enter into any agreements without the involvement of Council.
 - This belongs under the Curriculum Committee (rather than Membership Development). This will take a great deal of work and there are members willing to do this
 - Commentary & suggestions:
 - Agreed, that the Distinguished Speaker Series Team will operate under the Curriculum Committee
 - We agree this team can start the process
 - Will inform Council of progress
 - Create a time frame (w/deadlines) and notify Council if and when they need to handle anything

Martha:

- Authoritarianism Course (Update)
 - Leon Botstein has agreed to be the first speaker for this series, as well as the closing speaker for a fall semester afternoon course which is being created (to take place at Olin Hall and on Zoom-hybrid)
 - Hybrid course technology is very difficult - we need people who can support a webinar (which Bard will add to their webinar license)

- Rather than Leon as closing speaker, perhaps it can be a “Special Event” and the first of the Distinguished Speakers series
 - Council agreed this will be a special event, not a class
 - Would like to explore having more courses like this
 - Concern expressed & discussed about opening our classes to non-LLI members in a “regular” semester - it’s agreed that this is a great opportunity but the concern is about the format. If we open it up to non-members could it set a precedent that any class can do this? There has to be a process created to handle this type of format
 - Is this the kick off of the Distinguished Speaker Series?
 - If we don’t pay speakers, at least we do need to provide them with a large audience
 - Possibly serve refreshments (200 people), although would LLI pay for this? This could cost as much as \$1,600 - we don’t have the funds
- Council will not supply funds for refreshments:
 Motion to not supply funding for refreshments: Carmela, seconded by Eleanor, all in favor of not supplying refreshments.

Existing Policies For Review

- **ORG 06/22**
No Changes
- **ORG9/21**
No Changes

Reports on File:

Vice Presidents’ reports	
Curriculum Committee	Mary McClellan
Governance - Finance	
Membership Development	L. Walker
Program Support	Carmela Gersbeck
CCE Liaison Report	Jill Lundquist
Civic Engagement Team	
Communications Team	
Distinguished Speaker Series Team	

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Carmela seconded by Karen - all in favor
 Robert adjourned the meeting at 10:49am

Next LLI Council Meeting: Monday, August 18, 2025 @ 9:30am/Zoom

Submitted by,
 Susan Simon, Secretary