



Council Minutes
February 17, 2026
9:30am - 10:34am
Via Zoom

Council & Committee Members Present:

Robert Beaury, Kayla Bell, Carmela Gersbeck, Karen Kane, Collin Lovas, Jill Lundquist, Mary McClellan, Grace McKay, Chuck Mishaan, Susan Simon

Guests: Alan Katz, Cathy Reinis

Council & Committee Members Absent: L. Walker, Michael Weinstock, Eleanor Wieder

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 January 20, 2026 by Carmela, seconded by Collin, All in favor

Secretary Correspondence (not distributed)

Susan reported:

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

Treasurer's Report

- Part of Tentative Budget discussion

Tech Training

- Carmela has scheduled Class Manager, Tech, Pro-Class and Registration trainings

Business

Karen

- Tentative Budget (Discuss and adopt)
 - Budget Workshop February 26th
 - Preliminary April, to be adopted by Council
 - Final, vote in May (Survey Monkey)

Discussion:

- Should we increase our donations to Bard \$10,000 (from 40k to 50k) for 2026-27 Budget year, drawing on fund balance (126k) that sit unused and also as a way to show our appreciation.
 - Motion to increase donation to Bard by \$10,000 for the 2026-27 budget by Mary, seconded by Carmela, All in favor
 - This increases our donation to \$50,000 - will discuss with Bard where they would like to put this "extra" money.
- Possibly add cookies to coffee service, will ask Betti what the additional cost would be

Robert

- Annual Meeting and Summer Party May 28th, Robert Post Park at 4:30, \$175
 - \$175 fee for using Robert Post Park (used to be \$0)
 - No by-laws to vote on this year
 - Voting on 2026-27 Budget and Approval of 2025 Annual Meeting minutes will take via Survey Monkey
 - Party will be from 4:30-7:30pm

Mary - Spring Semester (Update)

- In great shape
 - All Class Managers & Session Managers have been assigned
 - Class location spreadsheet has been prepped and will be sent to Council members
- SummerFest Semester in action & looking good too!

Collin

- Election 2026, vote in March (Survey Monkey/Update)
 - Election operations moving forward
 - A "Meet the Candidates" article will be in the March newsletter
 - Working on succession planning

Robert

- Insurance Update - Professional Liability Coverage
 - Broker confirmed that all of our volunteers who are LLI members are covered under our professional liability insurance policy

Robert

- Waivers (require for all off-campus activities/Discuss)
 - All Bard LLI activities that are off-campus require a signed waiver
 - Mary suggests we add a General Blanket Waiver link into ProClass registration, Carmela will find out how to do this

Robert

- Copyright Policy (Vote to approve) (link to course proposal form)
 - Go exactly with Bard's policy and add to our policy manual
 - Needs to be included in the presenter's proposal form & added to the google link for e-signature
 - Will review at March Council meeting to ensure everything has been updated & entered correctly
- SIG Dinners (LLI sponsored?/Discuss)
 - Lyn has requested we move this topic to the March Council meeting, gathering more information
- Donations to Bard (Discuss increasing annual amount by \$10k)
 - Reviewed and approved during Tentative Budget discussion

Policies For Review

Susan

- **PROG 04/22**

The opinions and views expressed in the LLI newsletter are those of the author(s). They do not purport to reflect the opinions or views of LLI or its members. In addition, any link to a website or content belonging to or originating from third parties are not investigated, monitored or checked for accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability or completeness by LLI, nor does LLI accept any responsibility for such content. **Reviewed in August '24

 - Cathy reviewed and feels wording is OK as is, no rewrite necessary
 - AND.....
 - PROG 04/22 is a duplicate of ORG 04/22, therefore eliminate PROG 04/22 and keep/use ORG 04/22 as follows:
- **ORG 4/22.** The opinions and views expressed in the LLI Newsletter are those of the author(s). They do not purport to reflect the opinions or views of LLI or its members. In addition, any link to a website or content belonging to or originating from third parties are not investigated, monitored or checked for accuracy, adequacy, validity, reliability or completeness by LLI, nor does LLI accept any responsibility for such content.

- **ORG 10/24B.** *(This policy is updated and replaces ORG 12/21A.)*
LLI recognizes the importance of making the public aware of our organization and supporting initiatives or events that are in line with our mission statement through purchasing and publishing advertisements.

Accordingly, any request from an LLI committee to place an advertisement in any form of media, including but not limited to print or online, shall be in accordance with the following:

1. A timely written request, including the proposed format and language, shall be submitted to the Communications Committee and the President for discussion and approval.
2. Advertisements must refer to the Lifetime Learning Institute at Bard College and include a link to the website. (Adopted October, 2024)

Discussion:

- Council receives requests to “advertise” events from LLI’s including Bard, Marist, Vassar & other regional LLI’s
- Discussed revising: A timely written request, including the proposed format and language, shall be submitted to ~~the Communications Committee and the President for discussion and approval.~~
- Tabled until March Council meeting, will look at ORG 10/24-A in conjunction with ORG 10/24B as well as any revisions discussed
- **ORG 04/17.** The LLI Council meets on the third Monday of each month, unless that is a national holiday; in that case, the Council meets on the following day. **Reviewed in January '25

No Changes

- **PROG 01/15.** The current Bard College Copyright Policy is adopted as Council policy. This policy can be found as an addendum to the Policy Manual. **Reviewed in December '24
 - Discussed adding updated Bard Copyright Policy
 - Motion to approve adopting current Bard Copyright Policy as Council policy by Mary, seconded by Jill, All in favor
 - Will change to PROG 02/26, add Bard Copyright Policy Link

Reports on File:

Vice Presidents' reports	Collin Lovas VP1 and Grace McKay VP2
Curriculum Committee	Mary McClellan
Membership Development	Lyn Walker
Program Support	Carmela Gersbeck
CCE Liaison Report	Jill Lundquist
Civic Engagement Team	
Communications Team	
Mentoring Team	Grace McKay

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Carmela, seconded by Jill, all in favor
Robert adjourned the meeting at 10:34am

Next LLI Council Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2026 @ 9:30am/Zoom

Submitted by,
Susan Simon, Secretary