



Council Minutes
January 20, 2026
9:30am - 10:35am
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, L. Walker, Michael Weinstock, Eleanor Wieder
Guests: Alan Katz, Cathy Reinis, Marc Weider

Council & Committee Members Absent: All present

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 November 17, 2025 and special meeting December 18, 2025 by Carmela, seconded by Michael, 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

- Up to date, all contributions & scholarships have been distributed (more to be distributed in May/June)

Tech Training

- Carmela emailed the recent Zoom updates guide & is prepping an article for the newsletter

Business

Robert

- Budget Workshop, February
 - Workshop date set for February 26 @ 9:30am via Zoom, Attendees: Robert, Karen, Marc, Alan, Eleanor, & Grace
 - Tentative Budget to be adopted by Council in March
 - Preliminary Budget to be adopted by Council in April
 - Members will vote on the Preliminary Budget and the May 15, 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes this May, via Survey Monkey (rather than in-person voting at next Annual Meeting)
- Sr to Sr Event, Friday April 17th @ 4:30 on Bard campus at RKC (The Reem and Kayden Center for Science and Computation)
- Website maintenance discussion
 - Although there was a maintenance project a year ago, more needs to be done
 - Robert reviewed & presented to Carmela, Susan C. & Marc and will be updated soon, Cathy will also review the changes
 - Website needs to be reviewed at least semi-annually by Communications
- Olin Hall elevator repair
 - Repairs have started on the elevator and it will likely be out-of-service until 3/18 (two Spring semester Fridays)
 - Just in case, we should prep for it to be out of service beyond 3/18
 - This will have an impact on our members but there is nothing that we can do about it
 - Carmela suggest we put a note in the Spring catalog about the elevator outage
 - Mary will put an article in the February newsletter to inform members and a reminder when Spring registration is announced

Mary - Spring Semester (Update)

- Working out very well

Collin

- Election 2026, vote in March (Update)
 - Full slate of candidates:
 - Alan Katz, President
 - Carmela Gersbeck, 1st Vice-President
 - Marc Weider, Treasurer
 - Will prepare a "Meet the Candidates" article for March newsletter
 - Election 2026 is March 8-15th
 - Considering a shorter window for nominations and voting time for our future elections

- We need to come up with a plan for succession planning
 - Members need to understand that we need people to step up to the plate and assist with Council and LLI operations
 - Newsletter: highlight committees & teams, a monthly article for each team
 - Look at new applications & see what they can do for Council & Committees
 - When asking someone to volunteer, be specific with what they are needed to do
- Parking on Campus (Update)
 - We should cancel the car-pooling initiative due to liabilities than can occur
- Motion to table Car-pooling Initiative by Grace, seconded by Carmela, All in favor
 - Collin will have Susan C. remove the parking page from the website
 - Collin will notify participants who submitted a paper survey about the cancellation

Grace

- Mentor/Mentee Program (Update)
 - Excellent meeting with LLI Members & Bard staff presented by Grace and Robin Gelburd (Grace said she did a great presentation about the program)
 - Impressed by the robust variety of professions
 - Next step - looking to see the best way to start a pilot program

Lyn

- Summer class with Bikes (Discussion/Waiver)
 - To be proposed to the Curriculum Committee: Rail Trail Course, four Tuesdays in June on various flat & paved rail trails (about a 30 minute drive to get there)
- Discussion re: the pros & cons of having a waiver
 - Does the course need a waiver?
 - Should we require it like we do for Pickleball)?
 - Marc feels any off campus activity should require a waiver, LLI or not
 - Bard does require this and has a waiver which is in the Council drive
- Motion to approve use of waivers for all off campus programs by Jill, seconded by Grace, all in favor
 - Grace will review the waivers on our drive (Bard and LLI) and choose ours or the Bard version

Existing Policies For Review

Susan

- **ORG 07/24**

LLI at Bard College depends on members becoming involved to facilitate the operations of this all-volunteer organization. To that end, members are encouraged to join committee and team meetings to get a sense of the depth and breadth of the work that is done on a regular basis. ~~First, to become a member of a committee or team, the individual must be a current member of LLI. Second, a member who wishes to join any monthly meeting as a guest will not be interviewed or questioned in any way.~~ At the discretion of the Chair, guests will quietly observe the meeting until the end, when they may be asked to speak if they wish. ~~Second,~~ members who wish to join a committee or team can expect to contribute to the Committee and/or Team that they decide to join.

**Adopted July, 2024

Revised to:

- **ORG 07/24A**

LLI at Bard College depends on members becoming involved to facilitate the operations of this all-volunteer organization. To that end, members are encouraged to join committee and team meetings to get a sense of the depth and breadth of the work that is done on a regular basis. To become a member of a committee or team, the individual must be a current member of LLI. At the discretion of the Chair, guests will quietly observe the meeting until the end, when they may be asked to speak if they wish. Members who wish to join a committee or team can expect to contribute to the Committee and/or Team that they decide to join. **Adopted July, 2024, revised Jan, 2026

- **ORG 10/24-A.** *(This policy is updated and replaced PROG 09/22)*

LLI will publicize only events directly related to LLI, Bard or a regional LLI. LLI will not publicize other events or organizations, including those sponsored by members or presenters, unless the event includes an invitation for LLI members. Death notices of LLI members will be briefly mentioned in the newsletter under the heading "In Memoriam," with links to the member's obituary if available. (Adopted October, 2024)

No changes

- **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 will reword for approval at February meeting

Reports on File:

Vice Presidents' reports	Collin Lovas VP1 and Grace McKay VP2
Curriculum Committee	Mary McClellan
Governance - Finance	Karen Kane
Membership Development	Lyn Walker
Program Support	Carmela Gersbeck
CCE Liaison Report	
Civic Engagement Team	Barbara Danish
Communications Team	
Mentoring Team:	Robin Gelburd

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Carmela, seconded by Grace, all in favor
Robert adjourned the meeting at 10:35am

Next LLI Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 @ 9:30am/Zoom

Submitted by,
Susan Simon, Secretary