



Council Minutes
March 16, 2026
9:31am - 11:08am
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: Alan Katz, Cathy Reinis, Marc Wieder

Council & Committee Members Absent: Kayla Bell

Call to Order

President Robert Beaury called the meeting to order at 9:31 am

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes, Council Meeting February 17, 2026, Special Council Meetings February 20, 2026 and March 10, 2026 by Grace, seconded by Mary, 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 a Tech training for March 17, 2026

Business

Collin

- Election Results
 - Entire nominated slate elected
 - 138 responses
 - Writing an article for the newsletter reporting the results to LLI members
- Tech Team Update
 - Collin will be the lead of the Tech Team, Carmela will be his mentor
 - Collin will also lead the newsletter and mailchimp teams

Mary - Spring Semester (Update)

- Going smoothly
 - No room issues, tech issues quickly managed and learning from them
 - Hospitality Room - very positive feedback
Discussed the “money jar” in the room (for supplies) & most agree it's OK

Karen

- Tentative Budget (Review revisions)
 - Clarification & adjustments on certain budget items
 - Revised Tentative Budget will be sent out to Council members to review
 - 2026-27 Budget Adoption will be on April meeting agenda
 - Final, vote in May (Survey Monkey)

Lyn

- Annual Meeting and Summer Party (Reminder) May 28th, Robert Post Park at 4:30, \$175 plus \$2,500 food and drink - Details:
 - ANNUAL MEETING & PICNIC
 - Thursday May 28, 2026
 - 3:30 set up, 4:30 PM Business Meeting, 5:00 to 7:00 PM Picnic & clean-up
 - Robert Post Park in Kingston
 - 130 attendees estimated, LLI Members & guests
 - **\$175** park permit fee
 - **\$2,500** Food & beverage budget request (\$19/pp)
 - *SAMPLE MENU (in progress): sandwiches, pasta salad, vegan options, cookies & brownies, watermelon, soft drinks, water, red & white wine*
 - Will put a “Save the Date” in the April Newsletter
 - One RSVP via MailChimp on ProClass for both parts of the meeting
 - Insurance certificate for event is applied for
 - Park permit for event is 3:30-7pm (including cleanup)
 - No waiver from participants will be needed for this event

- Fisher Center Tour, May 10th \$680 - Details:
 - FISHER CENTER TOUR & RECEPTION with Optional Strauss Symphony (TÖN)
 - Sunday May 10, 2026 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM, concert follows
 - Fisher Center for the Performing Arts
 - 35 attendees estimated, up to 50 LLI Members & guests with +1's for Mother's Day
 - **\$680** food & beverage budget request (\$13 pp)
 - *SAMPLE MENU: sliders, tea sandwiches, cheese & crackers, fruit, dessert, sparkling waters, Prosecco*
 - Optional 3 PM performance: [Strauss's Alpine Symphony](#), TÖN. Tickets \$15 to \$41.50 before the 20% discount, (code provided).
 - Discussed possibility of people asking for more than one +

- Fall Harvest Luncheon at Montgomery Place, 10/5 or 10/6, \$2,700 - Details:
 - FALL HARVEST LUNCHEON with Optional Tours
 - Monday October 5 OR Tuesday October 6, 2026 from 12:00 to 2:00 PM
 - Pavillion at Montgomery Place
 - 120 LLI members for a sit down luncheon
 - **\$3,200** food & beverage budget request (\$27/pp)
 - *SAMPLE MENU: coconut shrimp, green salad, tofu, chicken salad, steak & turkey sliders, fruit salad, lemon bars, brownies, waters, red & white wine*
 - Optional Montgomery Place Tours (Choose ONE):
 - Sign up for tours before or after lunch at 11:00 AM OR 2:00 PM
 - Choice of tours include: Montgomery Place Historic Mansion, Garden Tour, Old Growth Forest Walk OR General Grounds Tour.
 - Discussed: Do we need a rain date? - Would be too complicated to arrange, plus the pavilion is covered. Lyn will find out if the tours can get a rain date. Plus, more tours will be offered in the fall.
 - Concern that membership # exceeds the # of RSVP allowed - We usually don't exceed 130 attendees to LLI events

- Motion to approve food, beverage & permit fees for Annual Meeting, Fisher Center Tour and Fall Harvest Luncheon by Grace, seconded by Collin, all in favor

- Motion to select and approve Monday, October 5, 2026 as the date for Fall Harvest Luncheon by Grace, seconded by Collin, all in favor

- SIG Dinners (LLI sponsored?/ Discuss)
 - Lyn described her SIG (Single Interest Group) about Fine Dining Adventures for socializing, sharing menus, cooking techniques. Dining on 4 courses of prepared food in groups of 8 at member's homes, 1x monthly for four months. Any interest?
 - Discussion details:
 - Need more time to consider
 - Doesn't see why LLI needs to be involved
 - Good idea but outside our comfort zone right now
 - Liability & food issue
 - Lyn thanked us for listening & will work on other ideas about this program

Robert

- Change date on new policy Conflict of Interest and Fair Representation Policy
 - Rename (from PROG 02/26B) PROG 03/26

Motion to approve renaming PROG 02/26B to PROG 03/26 by Grace, seconded by Collin, all in favor

- Follow up on complaints about a member (Special Council Meeting 3/10/26)
 - Although a letter written to member about the written complaints, reluctant to send
 - Discussion details:
 - Member could/would challenge and issue could go ridiculously deeper
 - Try to find a way to work with this individual rather than react
 - It is agreed that although it will be challenging, we will all make an effort to interact with this individual in a positive, friendly and understanding manner and see if this makes a difference

Policies For Review

Susan

ORG 10/24-A. (This policy is updated and replaces 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

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)*

No changes

PROG 11/17. At registration, LLI members give their permission for their photo or video image to be used in LLI publications and communications. **Reviewed in December '24

No changes

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 Mary, seconded by Grace, all in favor
Robert adjourned the meeting at 11:08am

Next LLI Council Meeting: Monday, April 20, 2026 @ 9:30am/Zoom

Submitted by,
Susan Simon, Secretary