

Lifetime Learning Institute at SUNY New Paltz
Annual Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2012
Woodland Pond

Present: 47 members

The meeting was called to order at 9:55 am, following a social time.

Opening Remarks- Sally Rhoads, President

Sally welcomed everyone to the 5th Annual Lifetime Learning Institute meeting. She made two announcements:

1. On March 27th, at 7:30 pm, at Woodland Pond, there will be a second showing of the movie **Transition**, which is a documentary about sustainable communities. The movie will be followed by a discussion.
2. LLI member, and friend to many, Ruth Silverman died this week. A celebration of her life will be held in the Community Room at Woodland Pond on Sunday, March 11th, at 11 am. A thirty second silence was observed in her memory.

Sally began by thanking Lyn Mayo for her part in initiating LLI, and for her years of work as Curriculum Committee Chair. She said that LLI is at the end of its childhood, and that her year as President has been involved with improving its organizational structure. LLI has been blessed with so many talented, hardworking volunteers and presenters. Sally gave a special thank you to the volunteers whom members don't often see, but who work behind the scenes to assure a strong, vibrant organization:

- Paul Osgood- Chair of the Catalog Committee
- Judy Reichler and Gail Gallerie- Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee
- Ed Steele- Newsletter
- Jean Poirier- Registrar, Administrative Assistant
- Helise Winters- Dean of Regional Education at SUNY
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Sally recognized both current and new Council members, and thanked them for their service.

Sally praised LLI as a fabulous organization which gives people the opportunity for new learning experiences, as well as the opportunity to meet new and old friends. She identified two areas for continued work:

- Growth- LLI now has 286 members. In the future, how large do we want to be?
- How to balance the social and academic mission of LLI

Sally thanked LLI for the honor of being its President.

Minutes of 2011 Annual Meeting- Susan Webber, Secretary

Bob Hershkowitz made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting, seconded by Paul Osgood. The motion was passed.

Report on LLI Finances- Myra Sorin, filling in for Ed Rogers, Treasurer

Myra read Ed's report to LLI, as follows:

LLI has a yearly operating budget of about \$28,000. Our principal costs involve the salary of the registrar, rent, insurance, and copying. We have savings that are approaching our yearly operating budget. The bulk of our income comes from our membership fees. For this fiscal year, we also have contributions of approximately \$400, with a median donation of \$15. Every year, LLI provides a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving SUNY New Paltz student. I would like to once again thank all of our unpaid volunteers, without which this organization could not function.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Consideration and Action by Members- Gail

Gallerie, Chair of the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee

Gail explained that the proposed amendments to the LLI bylaws for 2012 reflect organizational changes and revisions over the past years which have made LLI a more smoothly functioning organization. Gail moved that the bylaw amendments be adopted, seconded by Myra. The amendments passed. Sally thanked both Gail and Judy for their work.

Proposed Slate of Officers and Elected Council Members for 2012-2013- Tomasina

Schneider, Chair of Nominating Committee

Tomi reported that the Nominating Committee (Chair: Tomasina Schneider, Members: Myra Sorin, June Finer, Ellen Brady, Marilou Abramshe) met twice and presented the following slate of officers for 2012-2013:

Vice President/President Elect- Teresa Scott

Secretary- Susan Webber

Members-at-Large- Marion Ryan, Mary Louise Van Winkle, Ruth Bean

From the floor, Gail Gallerie nominated Ed Rogers for Treasurer, seconded by Dolly Wodin. A motion to accept the slate of officers was made by Paul Osgood, seconded by William Rhoads. The slate was approved.

In accordance with the bylaws, Margaret Armento-McDowell, Vice President for 2011-2012, will become the new President, and Sally Rhoads will serve on the Council as the Immediate Past President.

Introduction of 2012-2013 President, Margaret Armento-McDowell- Sally Rhoads

Sally displayed the large gavel given to her by Jo Gangemi, who said that "with this group, the bigger, the better." She christened it the LLI gavel, and presented it to the new LLI President, Margaret Armento-McDowell.

Remarks by New President- Margaret Armento-McDowell

Margaret accepted the gavel, and promised to “walk softly and carry a big gavel.” She said that it would be impossible to replace Sally, but that it was a privilege and a

pleasure to accept the Presidency of LLI. She congratulated the former Council members and volunteers for their involvement, saying that they are responsible for the growth and reputation of LLI. She invited the input of LLI members , and said that their involvement would bring our institution more growth and fame.

Margaret thanked Sally, and said that the past year working with her had been very instructive. She presented Sally with a plaque conferring a lifetime membership to LLI, as well as a gift certificate. Myra Sorin read an original poem , titled “Ode to Sally”.

Margaret thanked departing Council members Tomi Schneider and Ken Wishnick.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Webber

Susan Webber, Secretary

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