The meeting began at 12:10 p.m. Chair Stacie Hagenbaugh opened up the meeting for discussion about whether or not to vote to recommend that President Christ implement the revisions to Smith’s Political and Campaign Activities Policy. She reviewed the history of the process, including the final consultation with the college’s legal counsel and the incorporation of minor edits from College Relations. Susan Levin had tightened and changed the order of the first several paragraphs of the document. Daniel Kramer indicated that the text was intended to describe why the document exists and what its goals are. Ana Gorman moved to approve the document with the recommended changes.

Paul Spector, City Council (Ward 2), wished to confirm that no political fundraising is allowed at such events. Mackenzie Green inquired as to whether it would be a problem when Smith’s name appears in the titles of the student organizations (e.g., Smith Democrats). Daniel said it was understood that the Smith name will appear in the names of campus organizations. Barbara Williams said that the term “Smithies” implies individuals, not the college as a whole. Daniel added that the student organizations would make it clear at such an event that it would not represent an endorsement by the college itself.

Stacie asked for a vote and the policy was approved for recommendation to the President. She expressed appreciation for the patience and hard work of the subcommittee.

She went on to mention that with the upcoming semester, there would be CCCP members cycling off the Council, and that Daniel would be leaving prior to the end of his term due to other responsibilities. Stacie asked those present to consider issues in anticipation of next year’s CCCP. Beth Gillespie brought up the issue of fossil fuel divestment, which has been referenced at previous meetings. Carla Cooke mentioned activities of the student group on campus that has been working on the divestment issue all year; the group is looking forward
to giving a brief presentation to the Council next semester, with information about fossil fuel divestment regionally and nationally.

Paul said that he has not heard of any problems regarding parking near Smith from residents of the surrounding neighborhoods in more than a year—although that has been a significant issue in the past. He announced that on Monday, April 15, at 5 p.m. there would be a meeting in the lower level of the Smith conference center to discuss the Northampton parking ordinance.

The meeting ended at 12:26 p.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, October 4, 2013, at noon (Campus Center 103/104)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carla Cooke