



Tufts University

LINCOLN FILENE CENTER FOR CITIZENSHIP AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Medford, Massachusetts 02155

To the Trustees and Friends of the Lincoln Filene Center:

It is with regret that I write this letter announcing Frank Duehay's resignation as Executive Director of the Lincoln Filene Center for Citizenship and Public Affairs, effective June 30, 1981. This announcement, together with his plans for a sabbatical leave of absence from November 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981, was made at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Civic Education Foundation on July 15, 1980. The text of Frank's letter follows:

July 14, 1980

Mr. Bruce Harriman, President
Civic Education Foundation

Dear Bruce:

After careful consideration, I have decided to submit my resignation as Executive Director of the Lincoln Filene Center for Citizenship and Public Affairs, effective June 30, 1981, almost seven years after assuming the position. Although this has been a very difficult decision for me to make, there are overriding personal and institutional reasons for it.

The major factor is my election in January as Mayor of Cambridge. Within a short period, I have become not only the ceremonial head, but also the principal political leader of the city by virtue of chairing both the City Council and the School Committee at a time of rapid social and economic change. As involved as I had been in local government, I had not fully realized the major demands on my time that this new role would entail.

These demands are, in reality, exciting opportunities to provide leadership to one of America's important cities. I find that the position requires, and that I would like to spend, more time as Mayor than I now have available. It is quite unlikely that this opportunity will ever come my way again. And, it has become obvious to me that I cannot at the same time provide both the office of Mayor and the directorship of the Filene Center the time and energy each deserves.

I am particularly pleased that the President and Chairman of the Trustees have approved an arrangement whereby I will be on sabbatical leave of absence from November 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981. Not only will this provide me time to undertake these new responsibilities, but it makes it financially possible for me to do so. This is a generous act at a time when funds, I know, are scarce.

A second factor in announcing my resignation at this time is my belief that the terms of educational leaders should ordinarily last from eight to ten years. In any event, I should have looked forward to the next stage of my career by 1982. It seems wise, therefore, to make a clean break during the next year, rather than to return for a brief time at the conclusion of the Mayor's term.

Institutionally, the Filene Center has just begun the first major development drive in its history. Bruce, you have taken decisive hold of the drive, and I am confident that you will see it to successful completion. Over \$400,000 of the \$3,000,000 total has already been pledged or received.

Programmatically, the Center knows what it is doing and what it proposes to do: to analyze and teach others to practice wise and effective public participation in our social and governmental institutions.

Therefore, while no time is a perfect one, this is an appropriate moment for the Center to change its leadership. My major regret is not being on hand to launch the new programs which will come with the completion of the fund drive.

I am very pleased with the focus that has come to the Center's work during my tenure and with the firm relationships established with the Tufts faculty. My association with the Center's staff has been most rewarding. Never professionally have I encountered more creative nor hard-working persons.

In closing, may I again extend my thanks to the Executive Committee of the Trustees for the many courtesies they have shown me and for the opportunity, during these critical years, to lead one of the few places in this country devoted to the study and practice of citizenship, a Center that nourishes the very roots of a democracy.

At its meeting, the Executive Committee accepted this decision and asked me to express sentiments to Frank on behalf of themselves and the staff. The text of my letter to him follows:

July 21, 1980

Dr. Francis H. Duehay, Executive Director
Lincoln Filene Center
Tufts University
Medford, MA 02155

Dear Frank:

On behalf of the Trustees of the Civic Education Foundation, it is with a feeling of respect and regret that we accept your resignation as Executive Director of the Lincoln Filene Center.

You assumed the direction of the Center at a time when rebuilding and the setting of new goals was required, along with sustaining and enhancing existing programs. You met this challenge with determination, skill, and perseverance. As a result, the Lincoln Filene Center is today an organization with strong links to the Tufts faculty, a clear sense of purpose, and a dedicated and highly competent staff. Further, the Center has achieved a reputation throughout the nation for the excellence of its programs.

All of us associated with the Foundation and the Center are proud of your distinguished record in Cambridge as a Councilman, and now as Mayor. We appreciate your desire to devote yourself more fully to your public duties.

We are pleased to offer you a well deserved sabbatical leave of absence from November 1, 1980 through June, 1981.

I have found working with you personally rewarding, particularly during the recent months when I have been substantially full time at the Center.

We all — trustees and staff alike — thank you for your leadership over the past seven years and we wish you continued success and happiness in the years ahead.

Frank will remain actively directing the Center, of course, through October, and we shall continue to have his advice during the period of his leave. Decisions about the administration of the Lincoln Filene Center will be made at a later time.

Sincerely,



Bruce Harriman
President, Civic Education Foundation

June 25, 1980

S-356A

Comm. from Paul E. Healy, City Clerk, transmitting comm. from Bruce Harriman, Pres., Civic Education Foundation Re: resignation of Francis Duehay as Exec. Dir. of Lincoln Filene Ctr. for Citizenship & Public Affairs.

In City Council,

July 14, 1980