

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT WFCU BUILDING, 2800 TECUMSEH RD. E., WINDSOR, ON,  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016 AT 9:30 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Bill Bowden, Toni Michalczuk, Leo Couture, Jim Sparrow, George Merrett, Gord Miall, Freddie Beekhuis, John McLaughlin, Marg Clarke, Roger LeBlanc, Marilyn Laframboise, Val Luscott, Judy Bowden, Glenna Hemphill

1. President Jim Sparrow called the meeting to order at 9:40 A.M. and welcomed all.  
The Statement of Purpose was read by Executive Member Glenna Hemphill.
2. **Motion to approve the Agenda as amended – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Gord Miall. Carried**
3. **Motion to accept the Minutes of the September 26, 2016 Executive Meeting - moved by Marg Clarke; seconded by Val Luscott. Carried.**
4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
  1. How to advertise support for the new mega-hospital:  
**Motion – That President Jim Sparrow send a Letter to the Editor of The Windsor Star expressing District 7’s support for the Mega Hospital” – moved by Marilyn Laframboise; seconded by Roger LeBlanc. Carried.**  
Executive Members are encouraged to send their own letters to the Editor.  
Gord Miall will prepare place-setting notices for the Luncheon encouraging the writing of letters to Minister Eric Hoskins expressing support for the Mega Hospital.
  2. Revision of the Communication Committee Policies and Procedures will be presented to the Executive in the near future.
  3. Development of the Grief Pamphlet is on-going.
  4. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. Information will be coming from the provincial Committee in the near future.
  5. Notice of Motion for January Executive meeting – **That effective with the March 2017 Newsletter, all members with email addresses shall receive the newsletter via email and that those members with email addresses still wishing a hard copy may do so by informing the Newsletter Editor.**
5. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Jim Sparrow
  - Communication from Provincial as forwarded to the Executive
  - Letter from District 7 member Jim Martin regarding the Age Friendly Network. **Motion – That Jim Martin be designated a District 7 RTO/ERO representative on the Age Friendly Network, a sub-committee of the Senior’s Advisory Committee of the Windsor City Council. Moved by Judy Bowden; seconded by Bill Bowden. Carried.**
6. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Leo Couture  
Leo presented the Balance Sheet, Interim Income Statement, and Monthly Transactions Sheet.  
Leo reminded Executive members that Budget requests were due today. He also stated that two new budget lines would be added – one for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and one for the Bilingual Grant.  
**Motion – That the Treasurer’s Report for November 7, 2016 be accepted – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Gord Miall. Carried.**
7. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**  
President– Jim Sparrow  
Since our Sept. 26th Executive meeting I have:
  - forwarded memos from Provincial to appropriate Executive members
  - was invited to and attended the International Day of Older People- City Hall flag- raising reception at Unifor 444 Hall Oct. 1
  - attended FUN and FELLOWSHIP afternoon; newsletter addressing, October Breakfast Club; Senate; Governance Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Past President – Judy Bowden N/R

First Vice-President/President-Elect – Marg Clarke

Attended Newsletter folding; mailed US Newsletters; attended Senate in Toronto as a District 7 Senator.

Second Vice-President – Bill Bowden N/R

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives – Emy McBride N/R

Awards Committee – Bill Bowden N/R

Bursary Committee – Bill Bowden – N/R

Charitable Foundation Rep – Marg Clarke

A report was forward by Jim Sparrow on Nov. 1.

Communications Committee

a) Newsletter – John McLaughlin – N/R

b) Public Relations and Media Representative – Judy Bowden – N/R

c) Website – Eleanor Douglas – N/R

d) Data Manager – Paul Barber –N/R

Goodwill Committee

Mary Mason – N/R

Glenna Hemphill

Thanksgiving and Hallowe'en cards were sent out. Thanks to Helen Biales for her help in doing cards. Birthday cards were also mailed for the month of October. Christmas cards have been purchased and Helen and I have begun working on them. Gift bags and gifts have been purchased for our over 90's and those members in Retirement Homes.

I have spoken to one member about correcting her address after her Birthday Card was returned.

We had a very successful Fun and fellowship at Colasanti's. Thanks to val and Glenna for assisting with the planning.

Val Luscott

Glenna and I discussed the gifts for members. I e-mailed Freddie and asked if she wanted us to get the bags for her and then make sure she had them for delivery. She agreed and said it would help her in light of the fact she is recovering from a fall.

Health Services and Insurance Committee – Bill Bowden

I attended the Fall Senate as an Observer for District 7. I questioned HSIC on distribution of the new health booklets and updates to our Extended Health Program. Once again I asked why DHR's could not receive all of the new info in advance of mailing to our Membership. This would allow us to familiarize ourselves with all of the changes in advance of receiving members calls, emails etc. Once again, they will look into it!

Since our last meeting I have received several calls from our members and one email.

These dealt with proof of residency, cost of our programmes, switching to RTO and the stability clause. Two of the calls dealt with leaving a competitive plan and having no plan at all and possibly joining us.

GET YOUR FLU SHOT

GET YOU PNEUMONIA SHOT

GET YOUR SHINGLES SHOT

GET ANY SHOT OF SOMETHING GOOD

P. S.

1. There are over 5800 centenarians in Canada.

2. There are over 100 centenarians in RTO.

Membership Records – Glenna Hemphill

Our membership total as of October 31, 2016, is 2338.

Member Services – Marilyn Laframboise, Roger LeBlanc – N/R

Nominating Committee – Judy Bowden

Executive Members are asked to consider submitting their name for Second Vice-president.

Pension and Retirement Concerns – Gord Miall

Inflation adjustment has been set at 1.3%. The OTTP Board has outsourced some IT jobs. The Provincial Executive sent a letter of concern to the President of the OTTP and received a reply that indicated the decision was final.

PAC Report- Jim Sparrow

Except for paying careful attention to any news regarding the new hospital and anything coming from the Ontario Health Coalition (see below ) or Ministry of Health it has been a quiet fall. I still have not received a reply from Eric Hoskins regarding our support for the new hospital. One interesting notice- RTO-ERO has joined the Canadian Health Coalition. We are still looking for a new PAC Chair. In the meantime, I have continued to assume this role.

Coalition Warns Health Minister: Privatization of Ontario's Health Systems for Patient Records and Information Will Incite Massive Public Opposition

Banking Executive is Not Trusted to Protect Patient or Public Interest, Especially After Hydro Privatization Debacle

Toronto –This afternoon, the Wynne government has made public a formal invitation from the Health Minister to Ed Clark to “assess and validate the value these [health data, e-health records and related intellectual property and infrastructure] systems have created for Ontario and to recommend ways to take them to the next level”.

Ed Clark is the former President and CEO of TD Bank – a bank deeply involved in P3 privatization in Ontario. TD's economics branch was used by the McGuinty government to generate a pro-privatization health care report. The former head of TD Economics, Don Drummond, wrote the pro-privatization and pro-public-service-cuts Drummond Report. Top former and current leaders of Infrastructure Ontario – the P3-privatization entity of the Ontario government -- have come out of TD. Ed Clark recently recommended the deeply unpopular privatization of public hydro in Ontario. He is the father of Bert Clark, the current President and CEO of Infrastructure Ontario.

The Coalition is deeply concerned that the bias of this “valuation” exercise will be towards for-profit privatization. The Ontario Health Coalition is responding by warning the Wynne government of the following:

The privatization of patient records puts the confidentiality of patient records in jeopardy of being compromised. The U.S. Patriot Act enables U.S. security agencies to access private records of companies that operate in the United States, including international private records held by those companies. This has already been ruled on by the Privacy Commissioner in B.C.

Public data, infrastructure and records should be owned and operated in the public interest. Any decision-making process regarding these must include robust consultations with experts who do not represent financial interests and with the people of Ontario whose personal records are at stake. We will accept as neither credible nor acceptable a process that takes one person's opinion – deeply tied to pro-privatization and financial industry interests – and turns it into government policy imposed on Ontario's patients.

Announcements of this sort should not be made by issuing an electronic media statement on a Friday afternoon leading into a long weekend. Choosing to reveal these plans with such a process leads to the appearance that the government is trying to avoid public scrutiny.

Social Committee – Toni Michalczuk, Freddie Beekhuis

Luncheon is set for Nov. 16. Leo forwarded to Judy a couple of suggestions for revision of the form. He also suggested that the deadline for attendance registration could be set at 4 days before the luncheon.

The December Executive Meeting will be held at Lilly Kazilly's with lunch to follow.

Teacher Education Liaison Committee – Judy Bowden

Next meeting is Nov. 9.

Travel Rep – Bill Bowden

Great Lakes trip is sold out!.

## 9. PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Constitution Committee – George Merrett

The Committee assisted with the recent RTO/ERO Annual General meeting by acting as the parliamentarians and the Resolutions Committee. The AGM was very successful. The next committee meeting will be in February.

Governance Ad Hoc Committee Report- Jim Sparrow

I sent everyone the material Senate attendees received regarding Governance at Senate. The Governance Committee met after the Senate ended on Oct. 26 and again Oct.27. Judy and I attempted to stress the need for more communication with the membership regarding the coming changes and process. I believe we did that as there will be a communication in the late December Renaissance. In my Senate report I mentioned the two questions addressed by the delegates. There were 69 responses, some repeated as many as 13 times. These will be grouped and responded to ASAP. Senate attendees will receive these. Executives should know that most of the activities undertaken by Senate will remain unchanged. There are thirteen members plus staff who attend as resources at the meetings. It has been difficult to keep this many on track, but progress is being made. Don McCreesh, Risk Management Consultant is an excellent resource. A decision was made to adjust the annual Presidents' Workshop. It will be held in late March. The President and Senators who will be attending the Spring 2017 Senate will be invited. The entire workshop will focus on Governance. We will have to decide on our Senators by early January.

Provincial Executive – Judy Bowden

Judy thanked District 7 for their support and although she wasn't successful in her bid for the 2nd Vice-Presidency she is looking forward to another year as a Provincial Executive Member.

10. NEW BUSINESS

1. Subsidization of RPW registrations. Considerable discussion ensued.

**Motion – That District 7 RTO/ERO charge a \$10 registration fee for the RPW – moved by Bill Bowden; seconded by Freddie Beekhuis.**

**Motion – That the previous motion be amended by the addition of the words “and the \$10 be refunded at the door”. Moved by Marg Clarke; seconded by Glenna Hemphill.**

**Motion – That we vote immediately – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Val Luscott. Carried.**

The Clarke/Hemphill motion to amend was defeated and subsequently the Bill Bowden/Beekhuis main motion was defeated.

**Motion – That District 7 RTO/ERO offer the 2017 RPW at no cost to participants – moved by George Merrett; seconded by Leo Couture. Carried.**

2. District 7 will apply for a Provincial Bilingual Grant.

3. One District Grant application may be forthcoming.

4. Senate Report from Jim Sparrow

Windsor delegation- Marg Clarke, Bill Bowden; Leo Couture, Jim Sparrow, Judy Bowden (Provincial Executive), George Merrett (Constitution Committee member ), Helen Biales ( Founders Award recipient ), Bill Courtney (Guest as Past Provincial President ), Carol Bedard ( Guest ).

Election- Judy was not successful in her bid for Second Vice President, but was acclaimed as an Executive Member for 2016-17.

Award- Helen Biales was awarded the Founders Award. Helen thanked District 7 for nominating her. Previous District 7 winners of this prestigious award were John Zangari and Bob Lamoureux.

We did not introduce our postponed motion regarding a change to Guidelines for Travel, as the Provincial Executive had approved a motion in August accepting the pilot travel guidelines introduced last fall. These guidelines satisfied our concerns.

After thirty of forty revisions over the past four years, the Senate finally approved the Code of Conduct. It will be available on the Provincial Web site.

The Strategic Plan 2020 was approved. The three significant goals of the Plan are:

- improve the lives of our members and senior
- broaden our membership base
- become the trusted voice for our members and seniors as advocates for those on the retirement journey

Some of our members had expressed concerns regarding goal two i.e. could such membership include Children Aid workers and in-home child care workers. The Executive Director indicated "yes" if these people were licensed and premises were regulated.

Approximately an hour was spent on " Governance" with an address by Don McLeesh, an expert on Non-Profit Corporations and retained by the committee as a resource, and small group discussion on two questions- " What questions regarding Governance changes still remain unanswered ? " and " What additional communication materials do you need to help you explain in your District, the necessary changes to RTO/ERO governance ? "

The responses were gathered and will be grouped with responses and sent to Presidents and Senators in November. (see also my Governance Committee report when the agenda for our November Executive meeting is sent out Sunday ).

Project Service to Others Scholarship awards were raised to \$1500 from \$ 1000 ( 25 x \$ 1500 ).

During the HSIC report it was announced that Sun Life will replace Manulife as our benefit plan underwriter.

- travel is still with Allianz
- no change re: Johnson's role
- new benefit booklet in January ( done every three years )
- new wellness programs
- new benefit identification cards
- 1 year to submit old claims
- expected to be a seamless transition- refer to future Health Matters in Renaissance for more information

A motion re: Bill 33 was approved. This is in regards to the Long Term Care Homes Act, 2007 " That long term care homes provide residents with at least four hours daily of nursing and support services."

All in all, a positive friendly Senate which accomplished what it set out to do on time.

#### 11. Important Dates to Remember

November 16 – Fall Luncheon

November 22 – Great Lakes shopping trip

December 5 – Executive Meeting

January 6 – deadline for Grant applications

January 9 – Executive Meeting.

#### Breakfast Club

November 10 – John's Place – Paquette Corners

December 8 -

January 12 -

The meeting adjourned at 12:02.

Minutes submitted by:

George Merrett, Secretary, District 7