

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD AT 8325 RIVERSIDE DR. E., WINDSOR, ON MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018 AT 9:30 A.M.

PRESENT: Bill Bowden, Leo Couture, Jim Sparrow, George Merrett, Marg Clarke, Judy Bowden, Marilyn Laframboise, Roger LeBlanc, Gord Miall, Toni Michalczuk, Freddie Beekhuis, Emy McBride

1. President Marg Clarke called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M. and welcomed all,
The Statement of Purpose was read by Judy Bowden.

2. **Motion to approve the Agenda, as amended – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Gord Miall. Carried**

3. **Motion to accept the Minutes of the December 4, 2017 Executive Meeting - moved by Judy Bowden; seconded by George Merrett. Carried.**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Report of the Ad Hoc Bilingual Committee – **Motion – That District 7 flyers, announcements of events, and other written publicity be offered in French. – moved by Marilyn Laframboise; seconded by Leo Couture. Carried unanimously.**

Note: The intent is not to translate everything word for word but, where possible and practical, include statements such as “for further information ...” (in French.)

2. Revision of District 7 brochure – George, Art, and Leo will continue to review and report in March with final draft..

5. CORRESPONDENCE – Marg Clarke

Provincial Member Services Liaison Report
Memo from David Kendall – Planned District Activities for 50th Anniversary
2018 Calendar of Meetings – Provincial Office
Provincial Political Action Committee Meeting Liaison Report
Memo from RTO/ERO – re: 2018 Health Plan
Highlights and Resolutions of the P.E. Meeting December 7-8, 2017
Memo from RTO/ERO – re: Open Enrolment for Health Plan
Memo from Martha Foster – Charitable Donation Criteria
Memo from Carol Carkner, Chair PSTO- 2017-2018 Scholarship Documentation
Pension & Retirement Concerns Committee Liaison Report
Communications Committee Liaison Report
Memo from Jim Grieve-District Financial Statement 2017
Memo from PAC Chair Paul Brazeau – Vibrant Voices
Email from Richard Victor – Articles from Government of Ontario Newsroom

6. TREASURER’S REPORT – Leo Couture

Leo presented the Balance Sheet, Interim Income Statement, and Monthly Transactions Sheet.

Motion – That \$500 be contributed to the House Youth Centre Amherstburg (our designated charity for 2017). – Moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Marilyn Laframboise. Carried

The Executive was asked to consider suggestions for this year’s charity.

7. Approval of the Treasurer’s Report **Motion – That the Treasurer’s Report for January 8, 2018 be accepted – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Bill Bowden. Carried.**

8. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President – Marg Clarke
- wrote message for Newsletter
- emailed copies of correspondence received from RTO/ERO
- prepared agenda for Executive meeting
- attended RWTO Luncheon

Past President – Jim Sparrow

- submitted questions to Ray Guillet re: candidates for Provincial election
- reviewed PAC report for Executive meeting at request of Ray, submitted same to Marg on Ray's behalf

First Vice-President/President-Elect – Bill Bowden

- met with John and Gord to discuss our Newsletter publication and distribution
- in John's absence, Gord will take over mailings to members
- John will put the newsletter together before he heads south
- Gord will continue to look into the collation, mailing (labelling), etc. as well as talking to the local printer about possible costs for various publishing scenarios

Second Vice-President – Art Dubé

- continued updates of District 7 Facebook Page; monitored member engagement of the various posts
- worked on District 7 Web site
- continued to work on my understanding of Drupal, Web design and HTML
- created a new draft of District 7 brochure; sent to George and Leo for consideration

9. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards Committee – Art Dubé N/R

Bursary Committee – Bill Bowden

I received a letter from a young man about a scholarship and forwarded the pertinent information with links to the application form. I then received a letter from his RTO/ERO relative with queries I had already addressed with the young man. Then I heard from the young man again and hopefully cleared up everything about bursaries and scholarships. Both deadlines for applications are in February and March.

Constitution Committee – Jim Sparrow

Some changes will need to be made this year. The committee will meet in March. Approval will be at the Annual Meeting on May 9, 2018.

Nominating Committee – Jim Sparrow N/R

Resolutions Committee – Bill Bowden N/R

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archivist – Emy McBride N/R

Communications Committee

a) Newsletter Editor – John McLaughlin

Assistant Newsletter Editor – Gord Miall N/R

b) Public Relations and Media Representative – Judy Bowden

Judy would like the Executive to think of ways to be more visible in the community.

c) Website – Eleanor Douglas N/R

d) Data Manager – Paul Barber –N/R

Goodwill Committee

Mary Mason N/R

Glenna Hemphill N/R

Val Luscott N/R

Health Services and Insurance Committee – Bill Bowden

I received 2 calls concerning prescription coverage, ODB and the \$100 Ontario Government grab.

I wrote a rather lengthy letter to RTO/ERO concerning our health benefit premiums and received an equally lengthy response from Gail Manley. Personally the response was not satisfactory and I will raise my concerns at our Annual Meeting in May.

Membership Records – Glenna Hemphill
Full members – 2130; Associate members - 212

Member Services – Marilyn Laframboise, Roger LeBlanc
The RPW is set for April 7, at the Caboto.

Pension and Retirement Concerns – Gord Miall
Federal Bill C-27 is still a hot topic and presents considerable concerns. Gord will write an article for the next Newsletter.

Political Advisory Committee- Ray Guillet

There are two items that should be considered at this meeting. In each case, I am looking for support from the executive. First. It is my opinion that Highway 3 between Windsor and Leamington should be twinned. Currently, the twinning ends just before the Arner Town Line. Accident statistics as stated in The Windsor Star recently prove this to be a dangerous situation that should be remedied. I propose that the executive pass a motion indicating to our provincial Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA's) that RTO/ERO District 7 supports the completion of the twinning of Highway 3 from Windsor to Highway 77 in Leamington and that the president of RTO/ERO District 7 convey our wishes to the local MLA's.

Second. Highway 401 is an extremely important and busy corridor for commerce and tourism. I propose that the executive pass a motion indicating to our provincial Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA's) that RTO/ERO District 7 supports the addition of a concrete barrier in the median from Tilbury to London in order to enhance the safety of this section of the roadway.

Motion – That RTO/ERO District 7 supports the completion of the twinning of Highway 3 from Windsor to Highway 77 in Leamington, and that the President of RTO/ERO District 7 convey our wishes to the local MLA's. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by George Merrett. Carried.

Motion – That RTO/ERO District 7 supports the addition of a concrete barrier in the median of Highway 401 from Tilbury to London and that the President of RTO/ERO District 7 convey our wishes to the local MLA's. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by George Merrett. Carried.

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In preparation for the upcoming provincial election, I propose that we pass a motion to prepare a list of questions to submit to the candidates running for election in the three Windsor/Essex County ridings. I am submitting information about the development of the questions to help with the deliberations of the executive. I had hoped that we would be able to sponsor an all candidate meeting closer to the date of the election but that will not be possible. If we have questions ready, however, we can arrange for some of our members to attend all-candidate meetings and ask the questions.

The Origins of the Questions

I asked for input at the last executive meeting and from the information I received I have compiled a list of five questions which I think could be asked at an all-candidates meeting on behalf of RTO/ERO.

Proposed Questions for MLA Candidates

Question No. 1

Recent census data shows that the population of seniors in Ontario is increasing rapidly. What programs does your party support to increase the quality of life for these voters? What plan do you have to ensure that seniors have access to the kind of housing and care they want and need either through an in-home support network or by increasing the amount and quality of long-term care facilities in Ontario?

Question No. 2

It can be argued that Ontario has a partial health care system that leads to certain anomalies and causes long term problem for many of our citizens. For example, we provide drug paraphernalia to addicts but force cancer sufferers to pay for their own medications. In another case, a person can see a physician and be prescribed medication that they cannot afford to purchase. Untreated dental conditions lead to problems that require expensive hospitalization. The list is extensive. What will your government do to complete the OHIP system by including all citizens in an OHIP program that include pharmacare, basic dental care and eye glasses,

Questions No. 3

Many Ontarians are concerned about rising energy cost in general and the cost of hydro in particular. What will your party do to address these concerns and ensure that Ontario has a long term strategy to ensure that our province has affordable, dependable and sustainable sources of energy particularly for consumers such as greenhouse growers, small business owners and home owners?

Question No 4.

In recent years, there have been a stream of accusations about the misuse of public funds to buy advertisements that support the party in power. There have been court cases that allude to the misuse of power to unduly influence election results and candidate choices. A pall hangs over the way in which parties raise funds to fill their election coffers. What will your party do to ensure that Ontario is governed in the most open, honest and transparent manner that a modern democratic society expects and deserves?

Questions No. 5

Many jurisdictions are wrestling with the problems posed by the emission of carbon into the atmosphere. These range from cap and trade programs, carbon taxes, subsidies for electrical cars, asserting that the problem does not exist, etc. Does your party support any form of carbon taxation?

Motion – That the RTO/ERO District 7 Executive approve the list of 5 questions to be submitted to the candidates running for election in the three Windsor/Essex provincial ridings. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Gord Miall. Carried

Social Committee – Toni Michalczuk, Freddie Beekhuis

Toni reviewed the costs of hosting the RPW at the Ciacaro and the Caboto. It was decided to book the Caboto for April 7.

Travel Rep – Bill Bowden

1. PLANNED TRIPS FOR 2018.

Booked both Frankenmuth(May 22) and Stratford(June26)

2. Breakfast Club will meet Thurs. at L.A.Grill in La Salle in honour of past president Jim.

Hope to see everyone there. So far we have 16 confirmed.

Next month we are at Jerry and Jenny's Tecumseh Road just west of Banwell.

11. AD HOC COMMITTEES

50th Anniversary – Leo Couture

Next meeting Feb. 6. Forty-six responses to date. Marg will communicate with RWTO fo request contribution.

Charitable Foundation Rep – Margaret Clarke

Congratulations to Judy on her appointment to the Board.

Grant and PSTO Committee – Bill Bowden N/R

TELC – Judy Bowden – N/R

12. PROVINCIAL REPORTS

Provincial Executive – Judy Bowden

Judy sent Highlights and Resolutions from the Oct. 23 PE Mtg in a separate email to Executive members.

Constitution Committee – George Merrett

The committee met on December 11. A new set of suggested Terms of Reference was developed and forwarded to the Provincial Executive as input.

The Model District Constitution was revised to be compatible with the new Provincial Policies and Bylaws and forwarded to the Provincial Executive for revision/approval. The finalised document will be forwarded to Districts as soon as possible so that local constitutions can be revised in time for approval at any May Annual Meetings. It is anticipated that no major revisions will be necessary.

The provincial committee members will liaise with Districts on a cyclical basis or as needed.

PSTO Committee – Bill Bowden

I am looking forward to my first meeting in April.

13. NEW BUSINESS

1. Marg shared a letter she had received from Leo indicating that he will not be submitting his name for re-election as Treasurer. Much consternation ensued!

2. The Pre-Senate will be hosted by District 7 on May 24. Bill Bowden volunteered to look after arrangements.

3. **Motion – That Marg Clarke and Bill Bowden be the District 7 Senators for the RTO/ERO Annual Meeting in May. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Leo Couture. Carried.**

4. Motion – That Art Dubé and Marilyn Laframboise be District 7 Observers at the RTO/ERO Annual Meeting in May. – moved by Bill Bowden; seconded by Jim Sparrow. Carried.

Important Dates to Remember

January 11 – Breakfast Club – LA Town Grill – 5975 Malden Rd., La Salle
February 6 – 50th Anniversary Committee Meeting
February 8 – Breakfast Club – Jerry & Jenny’s – 11256 Tecumseh Rd.
March 1 - Breakfast Club – Lumberjack Restaurant, Tecumseh & Howard
March 19 - Executive Meeting
March 19 – Newsletter Articles Due
March 26 – 50th Anniversary Committee Meeting
March 28 – Deadline for District 7 Bursary Applications
April 5 – Newsletter Mailing
April 7 – RPW
April 12 – Breakfast Club
April 25 – 50th Anniversary Celebration
April 30 – Executive Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 12:07.

Minutes submitted by: George Merrett, Secretary, District 7

DRAFT