

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT ESSEX TRAIN STATION, ESSEX, ON MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2014 AT 9:30 A.M.

PRESENT: Judy Bowden, Bill Bowden, Toni Michalczuk, Leo Couture, Jim Sparrow, George Merrett, Norm Renaud, Adrienne Fasullo, Margaret Clarke, Marilyn Laframboise, Roger LeBlanc, Paul Barber, Gord Miall, Glenna Hemphill, Emy McBride, John McLaughlin

1. President Judy Bowden called the meeting to order at 9:36 A.M. The Statement of Purpose was read aloud by Past President Gord Miall.

2. **Motion to approve the Agenda – moved by Adrienne Fasullo; seconded by Norm Renaud. Carried**

3. **Motion to accept the Minutes of the May 26, 2014 Executive Meeting as corrected - moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Marg Clarke. Carried**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Revisions to District 7 Constitution

Motion – That the following revisions to the District 7 Constitution be approved:

1. **That Article 2:19 be amended by the addition of "The President may continue for an additional term(s)."**
2. **That Article 2.06 be amended to read "To hold at least one meeting of the general membership a year. That meeting shall be held before April 30 and shall be designated as the Annual General Meeting of the District".**
3. **That Article 2:20 be amended to read "A District Executive shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the District. The term of office for the District Executive shall begin on June 1 and end on May 31 of the following year".**

Moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by George Merrett. Carried

5. CORRESPONDENCE – Judy Bowden

Judy shared recent items of correspondence.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT – Leo Couture

Leo reviewed the updated Balance Sheet and Interim Income Statement

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented: moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Bill Bowden. Carried

7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President– Judy Bowden

- Met with Marg to set tentative dates for 2015 RPW - sent information off to Gail Knox
- Prepared articles for Newsletter
- Assisted with addressing Newsletters
- Prepared agenda for today's meeting
- Engaged in on-going dialogue regarding Reimbursement of Travel Expenses Guidelines/Policy

Past President – Gord Miall N/R

President-Elect – Jim Sparrow

Since the May meeting, much of my RTO time has been spent sifting through materials relating to the Ad Hoc Provincial Executive Committee Examining Travel Expenses. I was also in personal contact with members of eleven Districts in relation to concerns regarding the travel expense guidelines. This culminated in preparing a list of recommendations for the ad hoc Committee to consider at its August 20 conference call meeting. You have received my report of that meeting. I have also worded motions for Constitutional changes which were forwarded to the Constitution Committee for approval and which are on this agenda for Executive approval. This should complete the revisions of the Constitution. I thank George for his contributions and suggestions.

Vice-President – Marg Clarke

- met with President Judy to determine possible RPW dates
- dates submitted to provincial (in order of priority) are march 28/April 11/April 18
- assisted with Newsletter mailing
- mailed U. S. Newsletters in the U. S.

Motion – That District 7 delegates at the upcoming Recruitment Workshop encourage the Provincial Executive to reconsider the recent revisions to the RPW registration process. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Paul Barber. Carried.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives – Emy McBride N/R

Awards – Marg Clarke

Marg asked Executive Members to forward to her any names for consideration for the Lenore Graham Award. The Awards Committee will meet following The Hell With The Bell Breakfast.

Bursary Committee – Bill Bowden

Bill shared with the Executive a Thank You Card received from Jennifer Hitchcock, one of our bursary recipients.

Charitable Foundation Rep – Marg Clarke

Provincial is in the process of hiring a new Director to replace Alanna.

Communications Committee

a) Newsletter – John McLaughlin

John has recruited Marie Maurice to assist him with the Newsletter mailing. John, Marie, and Paul will work together to streamline the addressing of newsletters.

Books published by members may be submitted to Marilyn Laframboise who has volunteered to prepare a book review for the District Newsletter

John thanked the members of the Executive for making his job easier, especially with respect to timelines.

Executive members should consider submitting a bio for the Newsletter. Please let Judy know if interested.

b) Website – Ann Cotter

My regrets: I am unable to attend this meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

I have already informed our President Judy that I will be ending my role on the District 7 Executive as of June 2015.

It is time for me to focus my time and energy on other pursuits.

I have greatly enjoyed my time on the executive and have received so much friendship, support and appreciation of my efforts. Thank-you to all!

As you may recall, in the August e-newsletter, I asked for anyone who had an interest in assisting with communications. As well, our President Judy in her column in the Summer 2014 Newsletter asked for volunteers to assist in the communications area.

I am sure that there are retirees (computer geeks) out there with new fresh new ideas and approaches for our website and e-newsletters. I believe that it will be necessary for the Nominations Committee “to tap some shoulders” to encourage some retirees to consider the webmaster/e-newsletter role. I would hope that someone(s) step forward soon so that I can offer my services to give any needed training in the next few months.

The website is in need of updating and deglitching. It seems that some changes on the provincial server have impacted our District 7 website; I hope to get this matter straightened out this week.

John McLaughlin will contact Marie Maurice regarding assuming the role as Webmaster. He will have her contact Gord if interested.

John, Marie, and Paul will delineate roles if Marie is willing.

c) Data Manager – Paul Barber

Paul has started a new Facebook account. There will be discussion at the September Executive Meeting as to The viability of such.

Goodwill Committee

Mary Mason - absent

Val Luscott - absent

Glenna Hemphill

- sent 90 Thinking of You Cards, made one visit, received two phone calls expressing thanks for birthday cards
- Mary and I are planning a Get-Together for our 13 members residing at Amica to be held Sept. 17.

Health Services Insurance Committee – Bill Bowden

Since our last meeting I have dealt with several Health coverage issues via phone and personal meetings. The biggest problem I face in dealing with members is Privacy and this is the first thing I mention in our conversations. (Have discussed this with Lori in Toronto).

Two calls involved outside of Ontario coverage and proof of departure. One call dealt with coverage in another province which of course is very similar to out of country.

One other call involved the new stability clause.

The second involved outside Canada coverage while on vacation. This case carried on for over a month. I met with the member who presented me with large amounts of paperwork concerning his difficulties. I phoned Toronto on 6 occasions, and finally managed to get help from Lori and her assistants who were all in touch with the member.

In this case, as in all others, my main advice to the member was to listen to what Allianz and Johnson's say. Take it, it may save you thousands of dollars.

Just this past week I began to deal with a problem a member is having with the Emergency Medical Expense Form and am still trying to find out some answers for her.

As with all calls I receive I refer members to Johnson's and Allianz for their expert advice.

However, I still feel the local touch is still important.

Membership Records – Glenna Hemphill

Full Members – 2118, Associate Members - 175

Member Services Committee – Marilyn Laframboise, Roger Leblanc

Information covered in previous reports in this meeting

Nominating Committee – Gord Miall

Please forward any names possible to fill the Media Rep position.

Pension and Retirement Concerns – Gord Miall

Gord shared with the Executive a number of Pension “Talking Points”

Political Advocacy – Norm Renaud

The Provincial election, held on June 12, resulted in the voters giving the Liberals a majority government and our first female ever to be elected as Premier. The Throne speech that followed resulted in the same budget that the previous government had lost on.

Locally the MPP from Windsor West, Teresa Piruzza, lost her seat to the NDP. The shadow cabinet that the NDP formed saw all three of our local MPP's given a position of responsibility ; **Lisa Gretsky** as Community Safety and Correctional services; **Percy Hatfield** as Infrastructure: and Environment and Climate change; **Taras Natyshak** as Labour. One of the major cabinet shuffles within the majority government was the appointment of Dr. Eric Hoskins as the new Minister of Health.

One of the ideas the Provincial Government will be focusing on is the mandatory provincial pension plan that would be built upon the strengths of the Canada Pension Plan, which the Federal government is opposed to enhancing.

The Ontario Health Coalition (OHC) is opposed to Private Health Clinics being set up to take away the specialized work being done in hospitals, cataract surgery, colonoscopies, etc. Thousands of people have rallied throughout Ontario to back the campaign against privatized health care.

Locally the Provincial government has provided funding for a new 24-hour two-table cardiac catheterization lab, which amounts to \$18 M. This will allow the Ouellette Avenue campus of Windsor Regional to go from a day surgery operation to 24 hour care. It also will mean moving the lab to the fifth floor after the renovation of 20,000 square feet, putting the lab, which was previously in the basement, close to the critical care unit and easier access by ambulances. This will be built beginning in 2015.

The next step towards the construction of our Mega Hospital is the search for a suitable site. The public was asked to give their input to the committee that was struck to complete this project. Now the committee are asking for those individuals or groups that have suitable sites to submit them.

On September 8th Janice Kaffer, currently vice-president of clinical programs and chief nursing executive, will succeed Ken Deane as President and CEO of Hotel Dieu Grace Health Care.

Social Committee – Toni Michalczuk, Adrienne Fasullo

Gord is planning the September 29 Golf Tournament. June's tournament was a success.

Preparations are on-going for The Hell With The Bell. Cost for breakfast (paid for by RTO) is \$7 plus tax plus tip.

The Fall Luncheon will be at the Fogalar. Forward any suggestions for entertainment to Adrienne. A music ensemble from Walkerville C. I. is a possibility.

Judy will invite June Szeman to bring greetings from Provincial.

Teacher Education Liaison Committee – Judy Bowden – N/R

Travel Rep – Bill Bowden

It has been a busy summer, planning trips for our members for the Fall and 2015. We had a very enjoyable trip to Stratford to see the musical Crazy For You. Once again we were sold out and look forward to another success in 2015.

This Fall we have two trips planned. One is to Frankenmuth and Birch Run (member suggestion) on October 2 and the other is our annual trip to Great Lakes Crossing on November 25 during Black Friday Week. We hope to see some, or all of our Executive on one or both of these trips .

By popular request and survey we have planned two longer trips for our members in 2015.

One is to Ireland in May and the other is a river cruise in Europe with Viking in September.

All arrangements, bookings, etc. will be made through Travel Excellence. Collette travel, an affiliate of Merit, travel is the trip organizer for Ireland. There will be a travel night at the agency on Sept. 10. Colourful flyers and pamphlets will be available at %###*& breakfast on Sept. 2

would like to thank Judy for the very professional preparation and presentation of our travel flyers in our recent newsletter. The beauty of the longer trips is that no minimum number is required for participation. We hope these trips are successful and I will continue to plan trips that will interest and involve our members.

The Breakfast Club continues to thrive with numbers averaging around 20. Hope to see you at Marija's on the 11th and Stop 42 on October 9.

Thanks also goes out to Ann Cotter for the great work she does on our website regarding the trips and breakfast club.

9. PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Chair, Project Service To Others – Norm Renaud

Norm will be chairing his last meeting in September. The Committee will be reviewing scholarship applications.

Many congrats to Norm for so many successful years of valuable service on this provincial committee.

Communication Committee – Ann Cotter

Provincial Communications Committee

My last session on this committee is next week on Tues. and Wed. Sept. 2 and 3; my successor has been appointed and will be attending the meeting as well.

On the agenda for the Wed. Sept. 3 meeting is to establish future priorities and to improve communications between the Committee Members and District Liaisons.

Constitution Committee – George Merrett N/R

Succession Committee Rep – Jim Sparrow

Jim shared an update on the process to select a new Provincial Executive Director.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a) Ad Hoc Committee reviewing Provincial Travel Guidelines – Jim Sparrow

Jim referred to a number of information emails he has shared with members of the Executive.

Motion – That the following motions be approved and submitted to the RTO/ERO Executive Director for consideration at the Annual General Meeting in October, 2014.

1. That Article 16 – Expenses, 16.02 be amended to read:

“ Allowances for expenses shall be those delineated by the Senate on the prescribed form.”

2. That Article 16 – Expenses, be amended by the addition of a new section to read: “Guidelines For Travel On RTO/ERO Business may be amended by the Senate at the Annual Senate Meeting.”

3. That section 3(b) of the RTO/ERO Travel Guidelines be amended to read:

“If a member chooses to travel by automobile, travel by automobile will be reimbursed to a maximum of \$750 for verified distance.”

Moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Marg Clarke. Carried.

b) Motion – That Judy Bowden and Jim Sparrow be District 7 Senators at the 2014 Annual General Meeting and that Marg Clarke and Bill Bowden be District Observers at the 2014 AGM.”

Moved by Gord Miall; seconded by Leo Couture. Carried.

c) Consensus was reached that the Essex Train Station would be booked for Executive Meetings through June 2015.

d) Two hundred and fifty copies of the brochure, without calendar dates will be printed to be used this year and next.

11. Important Dates to Remember

September 2, 2014 – Hell With The Bell Breakfast – Dominion Golf Course

September 8, 2014 – Executive Meeting

October 6, 2014 – Executive Meeting

October 10, 2014 – Deadline for Submissions for October Newsletter

October 15, 2014 – Goodwill Social

October 23, 2014– Address and Mail October Newsletter

Breakfast Club -September 11, 2014

-October 9, 2014

-November 13, 2014

Pre-Senate -October 16, 2014 - Norfolk

Senate -October 20, 21, 22, 2014

Provincial Workshop - Member Services -September 15, 16, 2014

Adventures -Birch Run & Frankenmuth - October 2, 2014

-Great Lakes Crossing & Etc. - November 25, 2014

-Ireland Excursion Info Night - September 10, 2014

Motion to adjourn - moved by Gord Miall.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

George Merrett, Secretary, District 7