

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE ESSEX TRAIN STATION, ESSEX, ON MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015 AT 9:30 A.M.

PRESENT: Judy Bowden, Bill Bowden, Toni Michalczuk, Leo Couture, Jim Sparrow, George Merrett, Margaret Clarke, Ann Cotter, Marilyn Laframboise, Roger LeBlanc, Emy McBride, Val Luscott

1. President Judy Bowden called the meeting to order at 9:35 A.M. The Statement of Purpose was read aloud by Executive Member Val Luscott.
2. **Motion to approve the Agenda – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Marg Clarke. Carried**
3. **Motion to accept the Minutes of the January 12, 2015 Executive Meeting - moved by George Merrett; seconded by Bill Bowden. Carried**
4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
 - a) Review of Luncheon and Newsletter dates will occur at the May Executive Meeting.
 - b) Revisions to District 7 Grant Application – Jim S
Motion – That the revised District 7 Grant Application form be approved as presented. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Val Luscott. Carried.
Judy will send the revised form to all Executive Members.
 - c) District 7 2015 Designated Charity
Motion – That the local G.O.A.L.S. Program be the Designated Charity for 2015. – moved by George Merrett; seconded by Marilyn Laframboise. Carried.
George will investigate the appropriateness of L.A.W.S. for a possible EROTO/ERO Provincial Grant.
 - d) Proposed Changes to the Constitution – Jim will forward those approved by the Executive to John for inclusion in the upcoming newsletter. They are to be approved at the AGM.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Judy Bowden
 - Phone call from Jim Walls regarding accessing District Grants and/or PSTO
 - Memo from Kim Brathwaite regarding Spring Senate Representatives
 - Memo from Norbert Boudreau, Chair of the Provincial Nominating Committee regarding 2015 Nomination Forms for Provincial Committees and Positions on the Provincial Executive
 - Notification from Melanie Adriano regarding the first installment of our District Grant
 - Request from Liz Whiton, President District 12, Norfolk asking for our support for the Project they are submitting for the 2015 PROVINCIAL Charitable Donation Project (\$10,000.00)
 - Email from Cathy Tait regarding “Retired Teachers of Ontario - Fabulous Muskoka Getaways”
 - Liaison Topics for February (no resolutions)
 - Email from Wilma Pereira - regarding the Revised Model District Constitution (will forward to the members to the Constitution Committee presently)
 - Minutes of the 2014 Annual Fall Senate
 - Memo from Dale Burley, Chair of the Provincial PAC regarding the upcoming Federal Elections which was forwarded to Norm and Jim
 - Memo from Leo Normandeau, Chair of the District Foundation Chair, regarding the role of the District Foundation Rep and also the February News document which I leave to Marg to share
 - Membership Change Reports from Kelly MacDonald for February
 - Memo from Simom Leibovitz regarding the Presidents’ Workshop in April
 - Email from Tyler Lamphier regarding the establishment of a committee to oversee the re-writing the content of the curriculum currently taught to students at the Safety Village
 - Email from Adrienne Fasullo requesting retirement from the Social Committee following the AGM and Spring Luncheon
 - Communications from Provincial as forwarded to the Executive
 - Communication Committee Update from Gus Cammaert
 - Provincial Executive Priorities from Simon Leibovitz
 - January Liaison Topics and Resolutions from Dave Kendall
 - Letter from George Plantus thanking us for the \$500.00 District Grant for the musical instruments for the Uni/Comm

Programme

-Letter from Dale Burley thanking us for our support for the “When a Child Dies Project”

6. TREASURER’S REPORT – Leo Couture

Leo presented the Balance Sheet, Interim Income Statement, and Monthly Transactions Sheet. **Motion – That the Treasurer’s Report for January-February, 2015 be accepted – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Bill Bowden. Carried.**

7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President– Judy Bowden

-attended the February Breakfast Club

-fielded a phone call from Jim Walls asking for information about our District Grant and the PSTO Grant; I emphasized the need for RTO members to be involved and sent him a copy of the 2015 PSTO application with directions to look it over carefully and if he felt they would qualify to get in touch with Jim Sparrow

-met with Toni to settle on a lunch menu for the RPW and the Spring Luncheon

-met with Gord to discuss vacancies on the Executive and how they might be filled

-reviewed PE Liaison with Dave Kendall and invited him to our Luncheon

-prepared the Agenda for today’s meeting

Past President – Gord Miall

The Nominating Committee met on Wednesday, March 4 to try and solve 4 main problems:

1. Webmaster – some members are willing to help but not assume full responsibility. Some people will be approached in an effort to find a team that will accept full responsibility.
2. Newsletter Assistant – two people have volunteered to help/direct the distribution after being trained by John McLaughlin.
3. The Official Photographer position has not been filled but it may be part of the Webmaster’s Team.
4. Vice-President – two people have indicated they will run for the position. The Chair of the committee will communicate with each to determine if the interest is still there for both candidates.

President-Elect – Jim Sparrow

Revised District Grant Request - this was sent to the Ad Hoc Grant Committee for Input and forwarded to the Executive Members March 5.

I did not hear back from Jim Walls or others who had expressed earlier interest, regarding a PSTO Application. Thus, since the deadline for PSTO Applications to the Executive was March 8, I assume we will not be submitting a request this year.

At the time of my submitted report I have called and emailed Dale Birney with no response. The Grief pamphlet is apparently ready to print. We have been given the rights to distribute but have received no confirmation.

Note: Judy received a letter from Dale dated March 7 confirming permission for District 7 to reprint and distribute the pamphlet.

Judy will arrange for distribution of pamphlets to appropriate locations.

Vice-President – Marg Clarke

Plans for the RPW are being finalized. Marg has arranged for ads in the local newspapers and has distributed flyers to the English Boards. Roger and Marilyn have distributed flyers to the French Boards. Roger attended the AEFO RPW.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives – Emy McBride N/R

Awards Committee – Marg Clarke

Motion – That the 2015 Outstanding Service Award be presented to Mary Mason. – moved by Marg Clarke; seconded by Val Luscott. Carried.

Marilyn has a possible nominee for the Community Service Award. She will prepare a bio and send it to Judy for an email vote. Other suggestions should be sent to Marg by March 31.

Bursary Committee – Bill Bowden

Only one application has been received at this time. The deadline is March 27.

Charitable Foundation Rep – Marg Clarke

Received first Foundation News from the new Chair of the District Foundation Representatives Committee - Leo Normandeau

Board met on February 4th, 2015

Letter was sent to the Honorary Advisory Group asking for assistance in recruiting two additional members from the community and identifying potential donors

Year-end funding raising campaign had a 16/0 response rate and the average donation was \$90

Looked at the results of the survey sent out and stated that the comments were favourable and there was definite support for the Foundation to make grants available to those in post- secondary institution whether training to be doctors or nurses who specialize in Gerontology or other areas where specialties are required for seniors

Discussed a draft Gift Acceptance Policy

Discussed a draft policy and procedure for Grants

Board wants input to the draft copy of the Role of the District Foundation Representative

Tribute Program- a popular way for Districts to support the Foundation with a gift in Memory or in Honour of a member.

In the process of create a card of acknowledgment to the family or individual

Communications Committee

a) Newsletter – John McLaughlin – N/R

b) Website – Ann Cotter

Website has been updated. Please let me know of any suggestions or needed changes.

An e-communication was sent out via MailChimp on Feb. 5 with an open rate of 52%. The next e-communication will be sent out on approximately March 11.

c) Data Base and Social Media Manager – Paul Barber – N/R

Goodwill Committee

Mary Mason

Sent out 41 cards: 31 Sympathy, 2 Get Well, 1 Valentine, 3 Wedding Anniversary, 1 Congratulations, 1 Thinking of You, 2 Thank You.

Please continue to let us know if someone needs a card, especially when a retired teacher passes away (it isn't always stated in the obituary).

“Thank You” cards were received for Christmas cards and gift bags.

A “Get Well” card was sent to Diane Vizeau.

Glenna Hemphill

I sent 30 “Thinking of You” cards, 36 Birthday cards, and 103 Valentine cards.

Thank you to Jesse Klein-Lebbink for mailing cards while I was away.

Val Luscott

Visits have taken place whenever the weather has co-operated. Phone calls were made to make up for any visits. On January 6, Dorothy Brush one of our long term members celebrated her 100th birthday. I went to Royal Oak long term care home in Kingsville to take greeting for Dorothy from District 7 RTO/ERO. Shirley Plant, one of the volunteers in the county accompanied me.

Ethel Allison celebrated her 95th birthday in February. A group of us arranged to take in one of Ethel's favourite Chinese meals. It was quite an emotional day for Ethel. There was a constant stream of visitors to her room including her friend , Tom Bain warden of Essex county.

Health Services and Insurance Committee – Bill Bowden

I received a phone call from a member regarding our pension - in particular the amount of our increase and deductions. It appears there was some confusion regarding the 2 letters we receive from RTO in December and January. I suggested he phone OTPP; he called back to say it had been sorted out.

I was given the name and phone number of someone with a question regarding out Health Plans but was unable to get in touch with the person due to an incorrect phone number. As this person was not a member I was unable to get the correct contact information.

I received phone calls from 2 different members regarding the cost of incontinence supplies
I redirected a message from a member regarding Out-of-Province coverage - his concern was about another member who had experienced some difficulties getting coverage for a medical incident while on vacation. I emailed the member who had contacted me requesting more information about the incident and assuring him when proper protocol is followed the service from Alliance is excellent.

Membership Records – Glenna Hemphill
As of Feb. 28 – Full members: 2119; Associate: 184

Member Services Committee – Marilyn Laframboise, Roger LeBlanc
The RPW has been booked for March 28 at Caboto. Plans are proceeding.
To date there are 29 registrants and 6 guests.
Much dissatisfaction was expressed by several Executive Members about the new registration procedures imposed by Provincial.
The Executive will discuss switching the RPW to the Fall when we meet in May.

Nominating Committee – Gord Miall
See Past-President’s Report.

Pension and Retirement Concerns – Gord Miall
The tax season is here and the OTPP newsletter has a number of tax tips that can be accessed online. Contact www.OTPP.com for tax information.

Political Advocacy – Norm Renaud –N/R

Social Committee – Toni Michalczuk
The menu for the RPW has been set. Coffee has been arranged for 8:30. We can bring pastries for 8:30. Cost for food/coffee is \$15 pp all- inclusive.
AGM lunch buffet menu has been set, we will bring slab cake for dessert. There will be a raffle, 50/50 draw. No silent auction, and no entertainment.

Teacher Education Liaison Committee – Judy Bowden
We had our Federation Workshop Day at the Faculty of Ed.
We reviewed the events of the day and concluded that things went well.
The Pre-Service Committee continues to fine tune the overall design of the 2-Year Programme and in particular the course outlines for year one of the programme
We will be meeting to consider the RTO/ERO Most Valuable Student Award recipient.

Travel Rep – Bill Bowden
Upcoming Trips: -Stratford - Sound of Music - June 26, 2015 (prime seating)
 -Detroit River Cruise - August 27, 2015
 -Las Vegas - September 13-17, or 27-30, 2015
-continued partnership with Travel Excellence - a TICO registered Travel Agency and many Thanks to Chantal, co-owner and Mary for all of their help

9. PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Constitution Committee – George Merrett
I met with the Committee by telephone Feb. 6. We reviewed Senate evaluations and some District constitutions. The next meeting April 10 will review Senate preparations.

Ad Hoc Succession Committee Rep – Jim Sparrow
There were 37 applicants for the Executive Director position. The Succession Committee met and reduced the list to 13 and then to 6 for interview purposes. Following interviews on Feb. 12 and 13, 2 candidates were recommended to the Executive. The Provincial Executive then selected the successful candidate who will be presented to Senate for approval.

10. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Senate representatives will be Judy and Jim as Senators, Marg as Observer.

2. Pre-Senate meeting will be held in Sarnia on May 7. More info will be forthcoming.
3. Judy and Jim will decide which of them will attend President's Workshop in April. (Judy will attend).
4. **Motion – That District 7 support Bill Bowden should he decide to submit an application for a Provincial RTO/ERO committee. – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by George Merrett. Carried.**
5. **Motion – That the District 7 Constitution Article 3.02 (i) be amended by the addition of a new sentence to read “All trips/excursions must adhere to the regulations of the Travel Industry Council of Ontario.” – moved by George Merrett; seconded by Marg Clark. Carried.**
6. **Motion – That District 7 submit the following motion for consideration at the Spring 2015 Senate – “That Article 6 – The Senate, Section 6.02 be amended to read:
“The Senate shall consist of the following voting members:
(a) two representatives from each District, called Senators
(b) members of the Provincial Executive
(c) Chairs of Standing Committees
The Executive Director shall be a non-voting member of the Senate.” – moved by Jim Sparrow; seconded by Bill Bowden. Carried.**

11. Important Dates to Remember

- March 16, 2015 – deadline for submissions for April Newsletter
- March 28, 2015 – retirement Planning Workshop
- April 7, 2015 – Address and mail April Newsletter
- April 28, 2015 – Annual General Meeting and Spring Luncheon

Breakfast Club

- March 12, 2015 – Skippy's – University Ave. W.
- April 9, 2015 – The Dutch – Division Rd. N. Kingsville
- May 14, 2015

Deadlines

PSTO

- Presentation to Executive - May 25, 2015
- Submission to Provincial - Monday, June 22, 2015

Provincial Deadlines

- March 13, 2015 - for submission of nominations for the 2015 RTO/ERO Annual Donation
- April 2, 2015 - submission of District Resolutions to the Spring 2015 Senate
- May 13, 2015 - receipt of applications for positions on Provincial Standing and Executive Committees
- May 29, 2015 - nominations for the Founding Member Award and Distinguished Member Awards
- June 26, 2015 - receipt of applications for positions on the Provincial Executive

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

George Merrett, Secretary, District 7

