

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT ESSEX TRAIN STATION, ESSEX, ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 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, Roger LeBlanc, Gord Miall, Marilyn Laframboise, John McLaughlin, Ann Cotter

1. President Judy Bowden called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. The Statement of Purpose was read aloud by John McLaughlin.
2. **Motion to approve the Agenda as amended– moved by Marg Clarke; seconded by Norm Renaud. Carried**
3. **Motion to accept the Minutes of the September 8, 2014 Executive Meeting - moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Adrienne Fasullo. Carried**
4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
 - a) Assistance with Website/Newsletter – Ann has met three times with a person who has indicated a possible willingness to assist. John has met with someone who might be willing to assist in some way. Gord will contact both. A “District” photographer will be needed for next year. Executive members need to continue to search for new recruits.
 - b) Guidelines for District 7 Travel Reimbursement – Leo presented a draft document from the Ad Hoc Committee. **Motion – That the proposed Guidelines for Travel Reimbursement for District 7 Executive Members be accepted as presented. –moved by Leo Couture; seconded by Jim Sparrow. Carried.**
 - c) PSTO/District Grants – The Therapeutic Riding Association was suggested as a possible recipient. Gord will have Maggie contact Dorothy St. John for further information.
 - d) Entertainment for Fall Luncheon – Walkerville School for Fine Arts has agreed to send three performers. Lunch plus a donation to their program will be provided.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Judy Bowden
Provincial communications were distributed by Judy via email. In addition Judy received communication from Mark Tinkess regarding his candidacy and from John Kitney, Pres. District 20 regarding their Senate motions.
6. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Leo Couture
Leo asked that Executive Members send messages, requests, and/or receipts to him via email rather than leave message on his phone. **Motion – That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted as presented. – moved by Leo Couture; seconded by George Merrett. Carried.**
7. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

President– Judy Bowden

 - emailed several Districts re: District Travel Reimbursement Policies
 - met with Leo and Roger re: District 7 proposed Travel Reimbursement Policy
 - sent and received several emails re: Senate motions

Past President – Gord Miall

Gord reported on a successful golf tournament. Discussion was held on how to improve participation.

President-Elect – Jim Sparrow

 - communicated with Waterloo District re: Grief Pamphlet
 - contacted 3 Districts to clarify Senate motions
 - prepared notes for one Senate motion I will be speaking against

Vice-President – Marg Clarke

 - made hotel reservations in Simcoe for pre-Senate meeting
 - attended the recruitment Workshop in Toronto; many good ideas were given and shared
 - the most effective way of recruiting is personal contact
 - I expressed our concerns about the mandatory procedure for registration for RPW’s. It was noted and the MSC will review it

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives – Emy McBride N/R

Awards – Marg Clarke

The committee met on Sept. 8. The Awards Committee are recommending that Ken Attridge and Gord Miall be the recipients of the Lenore Graham Award to be presented at the Fall Luncheon. **Motion – That Ken Attridge and Gord Miall be the recipients of the Lenore Graham Award to be presented at the Fall Luncheon. – moved by Marg Clarke; seconded by Norm Renaud. Carried.**

Bursary Committee – Bill Bowden – N/R

Charitable Foundation Rep – Marg Clarke

The new part-time Director of Advancement and Philanthropy is Yolanda Bronstein. The Foundation Board met on Sept. 22 to discuss and finalize a survey which will be sent to District Presidents and District Foundation representatives. The mission of the Foundation is “To improve the quality of life for seniors” and our next project should reflect that mission.

Automatic withdrawals from a bank account or credit card are now available. Contact Adina Nedelcu at Provincial. Applications for Volunteer Members for the Foundation Board are now being accepted.

Communications Committee

a) Newsletter – John McLaughlin

Oct. 10 deadline for submissions. Mailing collation Oct. 23.

b) Website – Ann Cotter

The website has been updated with current information and pictures from the Sept. 29, 2014 Golf Tournament.

E-newsletter sent out on Sept. 11, 2014 (open rate 57%) and Oct. 1, 2014 (open reate 48%).

For the past two years, we have subscribed to the Flickr Pro account for approximately \$25 annually. Flickr is a photo sharing and storage service. There is a Link on our website to Flickr. District 7 photos from 2010 to present are stored there and can be downloaded easily. The Pro account gave us additional features and was ad free. The Pro version is no longer being offered, but we can continue to use Flickr with a minor and seemingly unimportant changes. The noticeable change is that there will be adds on our Flickr account.

Point of information : I have pictures stored on the webmaster laptop from 2006 to present. These photos are backed up under my own personal Carbonite account. When the webmaster laptop is transferred in June 2014, the issue of backing up the photos will need to be explored.

Norton Virus Protection was renewed for one year on the webmaster laptop at a cost of \$79.09. This protection expires on Sept. 15, 2015.

c) Data Manager – Paul Barber –N/R

Goodwill Committee – N/R

Health Services Insurance Committee – Bill Bowden – N/R

Membership Records – Glenna Hemphill

Full Members – 2127; Associate Members - 180

Member Services Committee – Marilyn Laframboise, Roger Leblanc

Roger reported on his attendance at the provincial Workshop. Presentations of District brochures, Newsletters, and Best Practices were very beneficial. The four ‘Carousel’ sessions for sharing of information were most interesting. Roger reiterated our concerns regarding the new RPW registration procedure.

Nominating Committee – Gord Miall

We still need volunteers to fill Executive positions. Gord will submit article to John for Newsletter.

Pension and Retirement Concerns – Gord Miall

OTPP has a surplus of 3% which will be re-invested.

Political Advocacy – Norm Renaud

Ontario is helping seniors stay healthy, active, and connected to their communities by supporting Elderly Persons Centres (Senior Centres).The Province is providing \$11.5 million to support 265 centres across the province. These Centres provide social and recreational programs that promote wellness for seniors and offer them places to gather for activities like fitness classes, computer classes and arts and crafts.

Ontario has appointed four experts to help deliver reforms to the province's publicly funded education system. They are:

Dr. Carol Campbell - University of Toronto

Dr. Jean Clinton - McMaster University

Michael Fullan - University of Toronto

Dr. Andy Hargreaves - Boston College

They will counsel the Premier and Minister of Education on turning their renewed vision for education into action.

The new Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, was installed as Ontario's 29th Lieutenant Governor on Tuesday, September 23, 2014.

Further to my PAC report of August concerning the private clinics, the Health Ministers from across Canada are meeting during the last week of September in Toronto. Across Canada advocates are hoping that Ontario's Health Minister, Dr. Eric Hoskins will send a strong message to the B.C. Minister to "hang tough " on the Medicare court challenge which threatens open season on patient fees for surgeries, diagnostics and other procedures.

Presently the B.C. Government and Brian Day, owner of one of the largest private clinics in Canada and the challenger, are in private negotiations and have asked the court to delay the case which was supposed to start on September 8.

Social Committee – Adrienne Fasullo, Toni Michalczuk

Toni and Adrienne reviewed the preparations for the Fall Luncheon.

Teacher Education Liaison Committee – Judy Bowden

One meeting was held in Sept. to plan for the Federation Day. FD was a success. Next meeting is tomorrow.

Travel Rep – Bill Bowden

The Frankenmuth trip was a great success. Forty-five people have committed to the GLC trip on Nov. 25. Next year's Ireland trip is in the hands of the Travel Agent. The Breakfast Club continues to have between 18 and 22 attendees.

9. PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Chair, Project Service To Others – Norm Renaud

Norm chaired his last meeting in September. The Committee reviewed 33 PSTO applications and approved funding for 31 of them.

Communication Committee – Ann Cotter

RTO/ERO's New IT Manager – Charles Tabone. In July RTO/ERO hired a new IT Manager, Charles Tabone, who oversees IT development both provincially and at the District level.

District Newsletter Guidelines and Canada Post Publications mailing information. To help Districts develop and distribute newsletters cost-effectively and efficiently, the Communications Committee developed a set of Newsletter Guidelines and compiled Canada Post *Publications* mailing information. These documents include valuable instructions, tips and resources and are available in the Members' Centre - <http://www.rto-ero.org/communications> and RE-Net2.

District communications support. The Communications Committee continues to support District communications efforts including website and newsletter development. Support is available by phone, computer, and in-person at regional workshops. Districts are encouraged to make use of the many resources available on RTO/ERO's website – <http://www.rto-ero.org/communications> and RE-Net2. Districts are also encouraged to contact Laurie Fountain, Communications Committee Chair, laurfoun@gmail.com about organizing regional workshops on Drupal or newsletter development.

Constitution Committee – George Merrett

The Committee met on September 18 to review Senate materials among other agenda items.

Succession Committee Rep – Jim Sparrow

On Friday, August 15 I had a conference call with Jordene Lyttle and Marilyn Guthro to clarify where we are with the Succession Plan and dates.

