
George Brown College Retirees' Association Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024

Call to order: Georgia Quartaro called the meeting to order

Present: Dianne Diniz, Georgia Quartaro, Bob Cox, Barb Dunlop, Crystal Kotow-Sullivan, Joan Reynolds, Debbie Plested, Paula Hacking,

Regrets: Trish Robinson, Denise Pontone, Julia Bulmash

Motion to approve the Agenda as circulated with an amendment to start the meeting with Electronic Welcome Letter

Moved by J. Reynolds

Seconded by D. Plested

Carried

Approval of the Jan. 18, 2024 Minutes as circulated

Moved by C. Kotow-Sullivan

Seconded by B. Cox

Carried

Electronic Welcome Letter

There was a sense that the Buddy System has not been working effectively so the electronic Welcome Letter was developed by B. Cox. It will be shown via YouTube narrated by C. Kotow-Sullivan and is designed to be sent to new forthcoming retirees by HR. The welcome package could be sent as a link by HR. The video was described by Board members as engaging, visually appealing but perhaps a bit too long. The question was whether to do away with the Buddy System and the welcome letter originally sent out by D. Plested. It was decided to keep the original personal welcome letter and include the link to the Electronic Welcome letter. This should also be on our website and the College newsletter as a link. B. Cox will send this to HR for all new retirees to receive.

Business arising from the Jan. 18 meeting

Scholarships

\$500 was sent to the Foundation to be used for the second scholarship. Currently the applications are being adjudicated.

AGM Discussion

We need to give members the opportunity to challenge what we as an association are doing and to discuss issues that individual members have with the Association. We want to make members feel included in how the Association operates. We plan to open up the floor at the AGM as a new final agenda item. It was noted this forum will not allow for discussions of issues or complaints pertaining to GBC itself.

Marketing Space in the Newsletter

This has been developed and discussed as a new service for our paid members. If a member has something to sell or a service to provide, it can be advertised in the newsletter but not the website. Each request must be approved by the Board. There will be no guarantee that each request will be published.

Parameters:

Published in newsletter one time only, may include a picture or graphic, 200-word maximum description, may include attached link.

The application form and policies for this program to be further reviewed.

Further work will be done before it is finalized.

Meeting with President and Vice president of GBC (Gervan Fearon, Leslie Guinlan, Krisztin Arany, (GBC); G. Quartaro, J. Reynolds, D. Plested, B.Cox. (GBCRA)

It was finalized that GBCRA members would not be given an extension on their email addresses. President Fearon was clear on this and a notice will be included in our newsletter.

If a GBCRA member is a student of a GBC course such as a student-led course, the GBCRA member would have email access and access to the library. The GBC President will take the lead to follow up on this issue.

GBCRA prefers that the GBC contact person for GBCRA be with Alumni Relations rather than with HR as the areas of commonalities are more aligned with Alumni Relations.

The College will give GBCRA space twice a semester at 315 King Street. Bookings for this space are to be made through Contact Krisztina Arany.

Credit Card for GBCRA

J. Reynolds will investigate this further and it will be on the March 19 agenda. J. Reynolds will discuss with DUCA how to send money by other means other than by cheque, e.g. e-transfers just as GBCRA can receive money via e-transfer.

Reports

Co –Chairs – as per Minutes

Membership – no report but membership is stable

Treasurer's – balance remains at approximately \$17,000

Communications - B. Cox and C. Kotow-Sullivan

It was suggested that K.K. Puri would be a good member for C. Kotow-Sullivan's Musings and Meanderings interview. He started the GBC Graphic Arts program. It was reported that C. Kotow-Sullivan's interview with Maria Ciampini was well done.

B. Cox is working on the next newsletter. The report of the meeting with the College President will be included.

Events

Three Sisters play and lunch - March 13 at Soul Pepper Theatre. An entire row of seats has been reserved.

Private tour of AGO and exhibit and lunch – June 18. The cost is \$400 for 20 people. Twenty attendees are needed for the private tour. The theme of the exhibit is depictions of women. B. Cox will investigate the cost for this event when some GBCRA members may also have AGO membership.

Tall Ships with lunch – July

Stratford – The Cage Aux Folles – Sept. but not finalized as yet

Wine tour – Sept. but not finalized as yet

Clubs

Bridge Club – doing well but new members are always welcome. A mention of this will be put in the newsletter

Book Club – continues to be held on Friday on Zoom

Theatre Club- is organizing Theatre Sisters

Lunch Club – this is currently being incorporated with other events

New Business

It was suggested that positive remarks that come from our members should be included in the newsletter but with no names of the donor included.

J. Bulmash will report on the survey for ideas for events next month's meeting.

Adjournment

Motion made by J. Reynolds

Seconded by C. Kotow-Sullivan

Motion carried

Next Meeting

Tuesday March 19, 9:30 pm – 11:30 am.