
George Brown Retirees' Association Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2022

Call to order: Dianne Diniz called the meeting to order.

Present: Dianne Diniz, Georgia Quartaro, Bob Cox, Laura Lothian-Bryant, Trish Robinson, Barb Dunlop, Jennifer Cooke, Joan Reynolds, Debbie Plested, Denise Pontone, Anne Mackenzie-Thompson

Motion to approve the Agenda

Moved by J. Cooke

Seconded by J. Reynolds

Carried

Motion to approve the August 29 Minutes as presented

Motion made by Laura Lothian-Bryant

Seconded by Bob Cox

Carried

Motions to approve the Oct. 18 Minutes with a small clarification

Moved by L. Lothian – Bryant

Seconded by J. Reynolds

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes

Board retreat summary

D. Plested and F. Quartaro are preparing this and will bring it forward to the January board meeting. The survey results were presented in detail in a recent newsletter and the members' views about the direction of the organization developed largely out of that.

AGM- Zoom Event

Motion – Moved to approve Agenda for AGM which will be presented at AGM

Motion – Moved to approve GBCRA 2021 AGM minutes which will be presented at AGM

Motion – Moved to accept scholarship report which will be presented to membership at AGM

All report motions were made by B. Dunlop

Seconded by J. Reynolds

Carried

B. Cox has created a slide presentation welcoming and highlighting the new retirees which will be presented at the AGM

Slate of officers presented by G. Quartaro and D. Diniz. Retiring members J. Cooke and L. Lothian-Bryant were thanked for their service to GBCRA over the years. They will both remain as conveners of the Bridge Club and the Theatre Club respectively. D. Plested will manage and IT requirements for all conveners.

D. Plested will organize the PowerPoint presentations for the AGM including the wording of the motions.

Budget report for AGM has been prepared by J. Reynolds.

Motion – Moved to accept proposed 2023 budget and financial report to be presented at AGM

Moved by A. Mackenzie--Thompson

Seconded by G. Quartaro

Carried

Discussion was held concerning the increase in the GBXCRA bank account balance. Some of the reasons include increased grant from the college, increase in the number of life memberships, low cost of events (online), and the budget for 2023 is greater than the income that we expect to receive ie we will be spending money that we have accumulated during the Covid years.

Another meeting with the College President will be requested in the New Year. The current schedule has not worked so we will ask for a meeting and set the agenda. G. Quartaro will prepare background information concerning the issue of retaining our original GBC email address.

Another issue that we would like on the agenda is addressing the Mental Health concerns faced by GBC students due to Covid and other societal issues.

A copy of all reports including the Agenda for the AGM are posted on the website. The members were asked for other items that they would like to see on the agenda

Discussion was held regarding Board members having a specific responsibility/duty on the Board. This will be continued.

Discussion was held regarding the participation of support staff with GBCRA. It appears to be decreasing as years go on. This will be continued. An idea was that this could be a portfolio position ie. Recruitment for all areas of membership – support, faculty and admin. D. Pontone has agreed to accept this portfolio role. She and B. Cox will sort this determine the details.

D. Plested has been working on getting GBCRA on the menu of the GBC website. The request has been forwarded to the person dealing with external relations.

Reports

Treasurer's Report – J. Reynolds

Bank balance is \$17,000. External financial review will be completed in advance of the AGM

Motion – to send \$3000 to the Foundation for the scholarship endowment fund

Moved by D. Plested

Seconded by A. Mackenzie-Thompson

Carried

Co-Chairs Report – as in the Minutes

Membership Report- D. Plested

D. Plested is still working on having the GBCRA website on the main menu of the GBC website.

Euchre club – D. Plested has a volunteer possibly willing to convene this club.

Communications B. Cox

A newsletter was published in November. Member events included Highway to Heaven presentation, and a piano concert (face to face). An article on Seniors Isolation was published in the Newsletter and the GCRA AGM materials were posted on the website. B. Cox has prepared a video welcoming and introducing the new GBCRA retirees/GBCRA members.

Crystal Kotow-Sullivan will be organizing a new Communications tool called Musings and Meanderings which deals with retirement issues. As C. Kotow-Sullivan has podcast experience, she will interview 6-8 members in 2023 by video tape.

Emmy Downey, a Canadore student will be doing research with GBCRA regarding the issues and concerns of seniors and this will be published in the newsletter and on YouTube video.

Events until the end of the year

Treaty of Versailles changed to Highway to Heroes

Piano concert and lunch (face to face)

AGM with a presentation on the music of Frank Sinatra and Bing Crosby. Note that 10 is a quorum for the AGM.

Discussion took place regarding 1 free event (food or drink) for new members. This needs further discussion. D. Plested will look into this.

Reports

Bridge Club – good

Book Club – good

Theatre Club – on hold

New Business

Winter events

Movie event- needs further development

Adjournment

Motion made by B. Dunlop

Next Meeting Tuesday Jan. 10 12-2 pm