
George Brown Retirees' Association Meeting

June 22, 2021

Call to order

Meeting called to order by Georgia Quataro

Present: Anne Mackenzie, Georgia Quataro, Dianne Diniz, Denise Pontone, Barb Dunlop, Joan Reynolds, Bob Cox, Jennifer Cooke

Regrets: Debbie Plested, Laura Lothian-Bryant, Trish Robinson

Motion: That the Agenda be accepted as amended

Moved by: Bob Cox

Seconded by: Joan Reynolds

Carried unanimously

A meal for 10 people from The Chefs House will be delivered to the Plested family due to a family emergency. Board members are to send donation if desired to Joan Reynolds at jreynold0815@gmail.com. Joan will deliver the meal.

Motion: Approval of the May minutes as presented

Moved by: Dianne Diniz

Seconded by: Jennifer Cooke

Carried unanimously

Business Arising from the Minutes

Calls to Members: Barb made calls to members who do not have a current email address and/or phone number. The results were given to Debbie P. and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting with Lesley, Bob, Georgia, Dianne on May 25. Lesley agreed that she would look into the items that were on the agenda
Bob suggested that Lesley should be contacted every 3 months to review our requested items eg. Keeping our email addresses, the college being aware of GBCRA activities. It was suggested that all deans receive a copy of GBCRA newsletter.

Retiree Event June 17

There were several compliments given to GBCRA and the speakers and tour. The presentation has been recorded by Bob. Thank you to Bob for his feedback survey. A suggestion for next year is to make more of a focus on the new retirees rather than GBCRA. The deans that were invited were those that have been most supportive of GBCRA. The gifts sent to new retirees included a journal, pen, sticker and a personal message to each new retiree. Sylvia mailed these packages to each retiree. Recently another 11 people have retired so they will also receive this package. It was suggested that the journals be inscribed.

Silent Auction

Ann will be setting up a meeting for this. Prizes to date include golf, skin care products, piano lessons, bridge lessons, amazon gift card. More prizes are needed. The date for the silent auction is early November.

Flowers for Anne Sado will be discussed at a later date as Anne was formally thanked for her involvement and support of the GBCRA by Georgia.
A journal will be sent to the new president who will start in September.
A suggestion for a future retiree gift is a GBC mug.

Reports

Chairs: no report

Membership report: on hold. There are 300 + members. Kim has been sending new retiree names to Debbie.

Treasurers report: \$12,556.00 as to date. The increase has been due to another lifetime membership.

Recording Secretary: no report

Communications: Opening rate for newsletter has gone up to 70% - a 2% increase. The newsletter will be published every six weeks instead of every four weeks during the summer months. It was agreed that the newsletter should include more "meaty" articles. Bob and Anne will work on this. An example could be Indigenous History Month.

Clubs and Events

Bridge- no report

Book – club has paused for the summer but Laura has prepared a list for tentative books for the fall. Dianne will write a notice for the newsletter that members can attend the book club to discuss a featured book that is of interest to them without being a member of the club. Theatre – on hold. Stratford will be using tents for performances this year making the capacity reduced in number. TSO has a 2021 season with limited seating.

Fall Events

GBC will still be holding all classes virtually during the fall so our events will be online as well. It is hoped that the AGM will be online but no promises. Bob will contact Circles of Enrichment to see what is available for their fall program. Suggestions include Andre Picard for Sept 15 who would speak on Eldercare. Luigi has applied for a grant for seniors recovering from isolation and perhaps he could speak on this topic. Bob will contact him.

New Business

Recognition for Sylvia –Bob will take her a bottle of wine for all the work she does for GBCRA.

Minutes to website

New process- Barb to send minutes to Joan for proof reading and then Barb will correct them and then Barb will send the minutes to Dianne and Georgia who will have the minutes posted to the website via Bob.

Barb is to send the March, April and May minutes to Bob for posting.

Meeting process

During our Zoom meetings it is asked that when you want to speak please raise your hand to let other board members know that you want to speak. This will help with people interrupting each other. Chatting should be done before or after the meeting, not during the meeting. One chair could chair the meeting and the other could be watching for people with their hand up and allow them to speak. Please mute yourself if there is background noise going on in your home to avoid background noise at our board meeting. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Acknowledgement of indigenous land should take place at the beginning of all our board meetings and events.

Student Placements

After much discussion it was decided that our arrangement with Trent University is not beneficial to GBC students or GBCRA. We are not ready and must decide on a project and which type of student the project relates to.

Adjournment: motion made by Barb

Next meeting: Tuesday July 20 12-2 pm

Submitted by Barb Dunlop