
George Brown Retirees' Association Meeting

Tuesday, April 19, 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, Anne Mackenzie -Thompson

Regrets: Denise Pontone

Motion to approve the Agenda

Moved by Trish Robinson

Seconded by Georgia Quartaro

Carried

Motion to approve the Minutes as amended

At least one co-chair will endeavor to attend the new retiree's event as well as other board members. The new retiree's event is June 23, and the gift to the new retirees will be given at the retirement lunch rather than being sent out by HR.

Moved by Trish Robinson

Seconded by Anne-Mackenzie-Thompson

Carried

Business arising from the Minutes

The meeting with the President was postponed but will be rescheduled. Those attending will acknowledge Cindy Gouveia's helpfulness to GBCRA in the past.

Georgia will email Emily Bain with regards to the \$4000 contribution from the College and an update will be requested to follow up on issues raised at the last meeting with the President.

Spring Events

April 3 – British Invasion - 20 members were at the event

April 22 – History of Crosswords – 13B regist

April 29 – book club with Jo Sorochinsky - 9 registered so far

May 17 – Rembrandt June 23 – new retiree recognition event.

Web design – on hold

Minutes Procedure

Barb to take the Minutes and type them

Barb will send these Minutes to Joan for editing and proofreading

Joan will send these final Minutes to Barb, Georgia and Dianne

Barb will save these Minutes

At the next meeting any required amendments will be made by the Board members and Barb will make these changes and send the amended Minutes to Georgia, Dianne and Bob.

Bob Cox is in the process of creating a new web page for Board Minutes and AGM Minutes that will be added to our current website.

By-Laws

Jennifer, Debbie and Joan reviewed the GBCRA Bylaws along with members Pat Goyette, Sheila McMillan and Gayle Takahashi. Proposed changes are being made and the final revised Bylaws document will be presented at the AGM for approval.

Bylaw considerations so far:

Changing the fiscal year from April 1 – March 31 (college year) to Jan. 1-Dec. 31

The process for allowing members to attend a board a Board meeting.

A proxy vote is actually an advance vote which would happen 7 days before the AGM. Proxy votes will be left out of the bylaws as are given by one member to another. Authorization is not made by the board.

Election of Officers – co-chairs can currently serve four years only and their terms should overlap by a year

General statement to be included in by-laws ... we encourage turnover in the board as others retire from their position.

GBCRA is unable to meet all the potential accessibility needs to the degree that the College does but can aim for inclusivity. This could be articulated in the Mission Statement.

Next step – the bylaw committee will organize the draft revision and send it to the Executive for final draft. The document will then be posted on the website in advance of the AGM.

Communications – B. Cox

The new email system is working and we will stop using the current system in 2 months – June 2022

Next meeting with the President and Foundation – raise requests for retiree discounts for theatre tickets, bookstore purchases, email, library access etc. HR needs to be involved with some of these requests. Apparently the College does not want retirees to use our original GBC email because retirees would be viewed as representing the College.

Suggestion for the newsletter – Ask GBCRA members who know of any grads that have become successful in their career due to GBC education to inform the College as the College is interested in promoting these grads and the GBC programs.

A scholarship sub-committee has been formed and will meet with Cindy. This committee will allow Joan to track the scholarship funds. The committee needs to sign the gift agreement with the foundation as a permanent document outlining scholarship criteria.

Reports

Co-Chairs – as in Minutes

Membership - Debbie – annual 2022 memberships 100; lifetime memberships 26; paid members for 2022 – 101; complementary voting members – seniors 8 and new members 30; unpaid members 134, paid voting members 120

Treasurers – Joan, \$11,500 in current account. The e-transfer of fees and other income with the new email address is working. It has been suggested to have all donations be sent to GBCRA and these will be sent to the Foundation. Currently some donations go directly to the Foundation.

New Business

Motion:

Electronic communication is the recognized method of communicating with the GBCRA membership except in special circumstances which may arise from time to time as determined by The Board.

Moved by Debbie

Seconded: Georgia

Carried

Motion:

A board member or subcommittee of board members evaluate the need and plausibility of creating a committee to support vulnerable members of the Association. The subcommittee will consider the need for and resource requirements for recommended support services (such as but not limited to) phone trees, buddy system, in-person visits, creation and distribution of hard copy newsletters etc. and make a presentation to the Board.

Moved by Debbie

Seconded: Barb

Carried

Proposal – Co-chairs will ask Sheila MacMillan if she would like to take this on as Board members are not available to do this. Sheila will be asked to report to the Board. An article could be written for the newsletter under the umbrella of inclusivity rather than just on the topic of vulnerable and isolated members.

Bridge – all is well

Book Club – April 29 – Jo Sorochinsky will present via Zoom.

June – hoping to meet in person.

Theatre – no report

Classical music – discussion of a half hour presentation by Bob's piano teacher. He will also be contacted re performing at the retiree event in June.

Retiree's event – Thur. June 23 at 10:45 (zoom to open)

- Debbie will send a Save-the-Date notice to all new retirees and all members
- Bob, Debbie and Dianne will put program together for the May Board meeting

Adjournment: Motion – moved by Debbie

Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 17, 12-2 pm