
George Brown College Retirees' Association Meeting

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Call to order: Dianne Diniz called the meeting to order

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

Regrets: Julie Bulmash, Trish Robinson, Denise Pontone

Motion to approve the Agenda as circulated with the addition of the Drag Queen event

Moved by J. Reynolds

Seconded by B. Cox

Carried

Approval of the May 21, 2024 Minutes as circulated

Moved by C. Kotow-Sullivan

Seconded by B. Dunlop

Carried

Board gave conditional approval of AGM Dec. 1 2023 minutes which are to be approved at the AGM 2024 meeting

Business arising from the May 21 meeting

Marketing space – the information for the marketing space in the newsletter is not quite complete but will be done for September

The luncheon invitation sent to Cory Ross has been accepted and he will get together with a few board members of GBCRA.

Membership

The electronic welcome package appears to be doing OK. Kim (HR) submitted 2 more retirees' names. This is up from 22 retiree names submitted. The Board felt that this was a low number of new retirees so P. Hacking will check with Kim. The new retirees home email addresses were given to P. Hacking but only 2-3 of these people have responded to P. Hacking. B. Cox will give the discount code to P. Hacking and she will send it to the new retirees to encourage them to join GBCRA.

Thought from P. Hacking – because members get 1 year of free membership, they perhaps don't think about joining for that first year of retirement. B. Cox will connect with P. Hacking to compare numbers from other years. P. Hacking has been sending information to the new retirees.

P. Hacking is checking LinkedIn and sending info to potential new members.

Suggestion by B. Cox – contact department chairs to get info re potential new retirees. P. Hacking will contact Susan Heximer as she at one point volunteered to be our liaison with the chairs.

Auction and Fundraising

B. Cox, C. Kotow-Sullivan and D. Diniz will be planning this event.

It will be on Nov. 21 at the Heliconian Club which has been rented from 10-4 pm. There will be an on-line auction 2-3 weeks prior to the event. The day of the event the auction will be live. Lorraine Trotter will be a member of the auction committee.

It was suggested that other colleges be invited to submit college related items for auction E.g. Wine from Niagara College, Cheese from Connestoga. An idea was also to open the auction to other colleges but in discussion this proved to introduce too much complexity and may be something to consider in the future.

J. Reynolds has donated her cottage in Bayfield for 2 people excluding children and pets.

Anne Sado has donated 4 tickets for the 2025 season for Stratford.

Chandi Jayawardena will donate 2 of his paintings.

John Higgins will provide a donation from the Chefs' House.

C. Kotow-Sullivan will get a gift certificate from George Street Diner.

The person who donated accommodation in Stratford last year will be contacted for a donation.

P. Hacking has organized a Best of Cobourg auction item which includes 2 nights at the Best Western hotel including dinner, a theatre performance, and a Via Rail pass (this

pass will be donated by P. Hacking) This package is for specific dates only and cannot be decided by the winner of this auction item. The value is estimated at \$1000.00. This is a truly experiential donation.

It was suggested by C. Kotow-Sullivan that a marketing student be contacted to assist with writing a description of the event and B. Cox will contact Maria previously from the Marketing department for some marketing assistance for these auction event items.

As we are able to find event donations please contact B. Cox, C. Kotow-Sullivan or P. Hacking with the information.

Scholarships

There are 2 recipients of GBCRA scholarships. One recipient was not aware that she had won the award until G. Quartaro told her and she is now in contact with the Awards Office and will include G. Quartaro with all correspondence. It was suggested that a GBCRA contact should be involved with the communication of the award to the recipient. The awards are adjudicated during the months of Jan. and Feb. awards are adjudicated and the awards events are typically held in the spring.

Reports

Co-Chairs

As per minutes.

Let it be noted that G. Quartaro, P. Hacking, and Lisa Rogers each attended a convocation ceremony.

Membership

-see above under business arising from the minutes

P. Hacking will report on current membership numbers at the next Board meeting.

Treasurer

J. Reynolds reported that there is a healthy bank balance of approximately \$16,000. She will follow up with the \$4000 annual grant to be received from the college.

Communication

B. Cox sent out a new newsletter last week with an open rate of 68% which is the average rate. Another newsletter highlighting fall events will be distributed soon. These events include Tall Ships in August, Wine tour in September, Stratford – Les Cages Aux Folles in Oct., Remembrance Day event in Nov. and the online AGM in Dec.

Les Cages Aux Folles – Stratford in October, 15 seats have been reserved and 13 have already been sold but more seats can be reserved. During the last week of August there

will be an event at the condo of D. Diniz. This will be a reception style event where people who have reserved for Les Cages Aux Folles and other GBCRA members will have the opportunity to meet other attendees and a former Drag Queen from TMU will present on the topic of Drag Queen history. There is space for 50 people to attend.

10-11 people attended the AGO tour.

Clubs

Bridge Club

-all is well but more members could be accommodated

Book Club

-Books have been chosen for the next fall-winter season

-there are consistently 7-8 members who attend each month online

Theatre

Stratford event is organized.

B. Cox will contact the Shaw Festival for ticket donations for the Fundraising event in Nov.

New Business

The new all wood building at the Waterfront will open in January. This will enable all space currently rented by the college to now be in actual college owned space. Space allocation for each department has not been fully allocated as yet.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, July 16 9:30-11:30 am

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by J. Reynolds

Seconded by G. Quartaro

Carried