
George Brown College Retirees' Association Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2023

Call to order: Dianne Diniz called the meeting to order

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

Regrets: Trish Robinson, Julie Bulmash, Debbie Plested

Motion to approve the agenda as circulated

Moved by C. Kotow-Sullivan

Seconded by J. Reynolds

Carried

Approval of the September 12 minutes as amended below

Spelling of Crystal's last name is Crystal Kotow-Sullivan

Moved by G. Quartaro

Seconded by C. Kotow-Sullivan

Carried

Business arising from the Sept. 12 meeting

3rd Age Network – remove from the agenda

Scholarship Awards – G. Quartaro is looking into who received scholarships this year and will arrange a meeting with the Foundation

Auction D. Diniz and B. Cox

- D. Diniz is waiting for the contract to be signed with the venue. It has been noted that nothing can be hung on the walls. Artwork can be laid down on the tables or standing on easels. G. Quartaro and C. Kotow- Sullivan will gather easels or art stands but it was

noted that some artists may bring their own easels. C. Kotow-Sullivan will coordinate the art sale and setting it up. Please send her any info that you have.

- So far there are 20-22 auction items available
- Other items for the auction are still needed. Please let B. Cox know what items you are bringing.
- Nov. 14 – online bidding is available for out-of-town members on this date
- Nov. 16 – During the event D. Diniz and B. Dunlop will manage phone work to change online bids to in-person bids
- Registration is at 35 but we would like more participants (60) B. Cox will send out the list of current registrants
- Masks will be available for those who wish to wear them
- J. Reynolds will check on the accessibility of washrooms
- The charcuterie board has been described as a “light lunch”
- A plan is needed for the day which will include the art show which will be organized by C. Kotow-Sullivan, the auction which B. Cox will prepare the bidding sheets, and who will do the speaking, the caterer – will plastic and/or cardboard be used – B. Cox will investigate this. A draft of jobs for the day will be prepared by B. Cox and D. Diniz who will also check the contract as to who cleans the hall.
- Guests- (who do not pay) Christine (alumni relations), Allan (Director of Fundraising), GBC President Fearon, Cindy Gouveia (President of Foundation)
- Chef In Your Home auction item- Chef Ryan Burpee (chef incharge) will be contacted to discuss this auction item to determine the worth of the auction item; the auction item is just for the value of the chef's expertise and the cooking and intermingling with the recipients. The recipient of the auction item will pay for the wine/ beverages and food but the chef will purchase the food and be reimbursed by the recipient. G. Quartaro will reach out to Ryan Burpee. It was estimated that the value of this auction item is \$600 so the decision was to start the bidding at \$200
- Richmond Station tasting– this company is donating \$200 for this event and they say that the value of this auction item is \$450 for 2 people. Because of this, the minimum bid will be \$200. Richmond Station employees are not normally tipped and do receive a living wage so the recipient will also pay a \$50 tip.
- Unions (faculty and support) generally donate money so gift cards will be purchased or a gift basket

AGM – this will be held on Dec. 1 from 11:30-12:30 online and then a break and entertainment from Circle of Enrichment from 1-2 pm.

Notice of AGM needs to go out end of October and the agenda needs to be sent out 2 weeks later. D. Diniz and G. Quartaro will work on the agenda and have it approved online.

Reports

Membership – no report

Current balance \$17,508

Treasurer's report – Suggestion – We need to think about how to spend our funds to benefit our members

Communications -

Newsletter will come out before the end of the year. Interviews will be done with the people donating auction items

Events – Suggestion – Food Bank event – perhaps 1-2 weeks earlier next year

Nov. 7 - "How Hollywood Changed the Holidays" has been cancelled due to the current situation in Israel. B.Cox will reorganize with Circle of Enrichment.

Lunch Club – 17-18 coming to Irene's Restaurant at Corus Building on Oct. 20

Bridge Club- other BBO players have been playing occasionally.

Book Club – By popular demand the Book Club will return to meeting online

Theatre Club – Stratford Theatre with a picnic lunch was popular. 9 people attended

New Business

Board Members – all board members agreed to be on the board for the next term but maybe not in the same position

D. Pontone has someone in mind to come on the board and she will reach out

C. Kotow-Sullivan will contact L. Medaglia-Miller re a board position

J. Bulmash and/or D. Diniz will contact Paul Hacking (Business) re a board position

Meeting with President

G. Quartaro has requested a meeting with the President but dates suggested are not available.

The question is do we want to continue to meet with the President as our requests have not been dealt with and the meetings are not as often as the initial plan. The Board concluded that it is important to meet with the President to keep in touch with him and to have GBCRA visible to the College. The grant for this year has not been received so J. Reynolds will investigate....

G. Quartaro will contact Gabriel to propose an alternate time on Nov. 7 or will suggest an alternate date.

G. Quartaro will also contact Cindy Gouveia to discuss how we could benefit each other and to discuss the status of the Seniors Association as GBCRA is interested in their office space at 200 King St

Adjournment

Motion made by G. Quartaro

Motion carried

Next Meeting

Tuesday Nov. 21, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Treasurer's Report – J. Reynolds – no change from last month

Communications – Bob Cox

Suggestion – If the President comes to any of our events his picture should be taken to be published in the College newsletter.

Events – B. Cox and J. Bulmash

Tall Ships – Wed. August 16 at 1:30 – previous date was sold out

J. Bulmash will book the Food Bank and the President will be invited.

B. Cox noted that there are 8 emails that are blocked – perhaps this is a reason why there is a lack of reservations for our events. B. Cox will investigate

New Business

Silent Auction – planned to start on Sept. 1 – no items have been received as yet. Board members were reminded to contact sources as identified. Pre-launch event was cancelled. It was suggested to have auction items at our events. Please let B. Cox know what items you have collected.

Adjournment – motion made by B. Dunlop

Next meeting – Tuesday Aug. 15 at 11:30 am