
George Brown Retirees' Association Meeting

February 17, 2021

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Dianne Diniz

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

Absent: Denise Pontone

Motion: That the agenda be accepted

Moved by Trish Robertson

Seconded by Georgia Quartaro

Carried unanimously

Motion: That the Jan.13 minutes be approved as amended

Moved by Trish Robertson

Seconded by Georgia Quartaro

Unanimously carried

Debbie had been asked to investigate having a secondary Gmail and/or having our account changed to a business account but it was decided to leave the accounts as they are.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The appointment of a Fundraising chair will be left to closer to the Silent Auction as this is the major fundraising event of GBCRA

Post COVID fundraising event ideas – Presentations including speaker - Jennifer Holness including a film called Priceville, Elise Harding Davis – Anne will check on this and get back to us, Captive – a movie by TVO, journalist Melissa Fung

Recipient of 2020 GBCRA scholarship is Charmaine Flowers. She is the mother of 6 children, 1 a lawyer, 1 in dental administration, 1 with the Blue Jays and 1 is a GBC student. Her goal is to be a motivational speaker.

Student Placement: We know that all colleges are desperate for placements. GBCRA's placement students this semester are Aimee Hatton and Molly Jones. There is information about these 2 Trent students in the GBCRA newsletter. It was suggested that Gerontology Activation chair (Steve Ciric) could play a role with this placement. The focus for this placement is safety, isolation, and community for the elderly.

Ideas for the student projects include coping with isolation, available resources especially in the rural areas, and immunization.

Seniors Association

No contact with this association during the pandemic has occurred.

Reports

Chairs' Report

A meeting with Georgia, Dianne, Bob, Lesley, and Anne Sado is in the preliminary stages. A major agenda item will be the \$2500 annual donation to GBCRA from GBC. It was suggested that the Board contact the two unions to discuss the following:

- A. Do they get timely information about retirements from HR?
- B. Do they have personal email addresses for retirees?
- C. Post-pandemic, would they be supportive of (and perhaps participate in) GBCRA running some annual event celebrating retirees, given that GBC's interpretation of the Broader Public Sector Guidelines resulted in the cancellation of recognition events like the 20-year club.

Georgia will follow up with the JP from the faculty union and Dianne will contact Megan Carter from support staff union. Perhaps the unions could assist us in identifying who is retiring and how they receive that information. We could send the unions GBCRA information for possible distribution to its members.

Membership

Our most important task in this area is recruitment. We have four new members this month with 97 paid and 158 not paid but 16 life members. There was a discussion of what to do with the lifetime member funds. Should there be a separate account or keep it in the general account as this is money for the future. This will be discussed when we know if we will receive the \$2500 annual donation from GBC.

Trish has volunteered for a three-month trial period to copy appropriate articles from the newsletter and mail them to the nine members who do not have an email address. Georgia and Dianne will contact the unions to see if they have personal emails for those whom we have only a GBC address in order to acquire a current email address they'd be willing to share with us.

Barb is going to call members who were current last year but have not paid their membership this year. The goal is to contact members who paid in 2020 but have not paid in 2021 to encourage membership renewal. Bob and Debbie will put this list together.

Treasurer's Report

Current bank account balance is \$10,255. Jennifer agreed to continue forwarding mail to Joan from the GBCRA mailbox at her own expense.

Motion: to move \$6000 from chequing account to an interest-bearing account

Moved by Bob Cox
Seconded by Trish Robertson
Carried Unanimously

Recording Secretary – no report

Communications

Bob's goal is to send the newsletter by 15th of each month. Bob reported that more people are reading the newsletter. The most popular columns are lost and found, member profiles and the history of GBC. Joan suggested an additional column could be Letters to the Editor which would be managed by Bob and Joan.

There is an issue with the movie event in showing movies as the sound is delayed. Bob is looking for a fix for that issue.

Laura will send Georgia and Trish the contacts and prices for the winetasting event. The potential budget would be \$150-\$250 per person.

Clubs

Bridge Club – Laura will contact previous members who have not been playing on Zoom and to bring them up to date. It is suspected that we will still be playing on Zoom for the next several months.

Book Club -Met in Jan. and will meet on Feb. 26.

Next Meeting Tuesday March 16th, 1-3 pm. Please note the change in time

Motion to adjourn made by Laura and seconded by Barbara.

Minutes Submitted by Barb Dunlop