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# George Brown Retirees' Association Meeting

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

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## **Call to order: Diane Diniz called the meeting to order at 12:05**

Present: Dianne Diniz, Jennifer Cooke, Debbie Plested, Laura Lothian-Bryant, Joan Reynolds, Denise Pontone, Bob Cox, Barb Dunlop, Trish Robinson, Georgia Quartaro

Regrets: Anne Mackenzie-Thompson

The agenda was reviewed and approved. Laura moved, Jennifer seconded

The minutes were reviewed and approved as circulated. Joan moved, Debbie seconded, was discussed briefly.

The recent online auction was discussed. Everything has been distributed. A few final payments are outstanding. The auction was successful both in terms of items sold and the direct donations that were elicited.

AGM on Nov 30 – This went very smoothly. It was well-organized There were positive comments and we have received positive feedback about both the President's and Jo Sorochinsky's presentation. People particularly liked the question-and-answer portion of the President's session with us. The PowerPoint slides were particularly helpful in keeping things on track. We agreed that there was no reason to post the video of the business meeting. Debbie will ask Barb for the names of the people who made and seconded the motions. Debbie will then update the PowerPoint so that can be posted. This should suffice for anyone who missed the meeting and wants to know what happened.

Board for 21-22 – There was general agreement that current board members will remain in their present positions and roles.

Meeting with the President – The Executive (Dianne, Georgia, Bob, and Joan) will meet with the President on January 11 or 13<sup>th</sup> via Microsoft Teams. Dianne will send out the proposed agenda to everyone on the Board for feedback. We will decide in advance which person will speak to each topic so that we use our time efficiently.

## **Reports**

Co-Chairs – as discussed throughout the meeting and minutes

Membership – invoices will be sent out today. Please note the statement on the invoice re the 85 + years category. We want to be discreet re asking for a member's age. Debbie may reword this.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The current balance is \$10,400. \$3534 was sent to the Foundation to go into the endowment fund. All but \$1500 should be put into the endowment fund as this is the amount needed for the GBCRA scholarship and a top up of the account.

In the endowment target is \$20,000 which we have met, and \$1500 in the regular scholarship account. The Foundation will prepare a gift agreement with GBCRA.

Motion that we transfer money from the GBC scholarship fund to the endowment scholarship fund keeping \$1500 in the regular scholarship fund. GBCRA awards an annual \$500.00 scholarship.

Moved by Georgia, seconded by Bob. Carried

Discussion re reviewing the criteria for the regular scholarship to be done in the New Year.

### **Communications Report:**

Newsletter is well received. Silent Auction raised \$3068. Amsterdam tour is fully booked. Luigi report status is still on hold.

Winter program:

Picasso zoom presentation is booked for mid-January with Circles of Enrichment. There is a Picasso exhibit at AGO so there is a potential of offering a tour for a group of 10.

February - Zoom presentation entitled *Pete Seeger to Bob Dylan* again with Circle of Enrichment.

March - Zoom presentation *Rodgers and Hammerstein* again with Circle of Enrichment

March- *Symphonie Fantastique* – Classical and psychedelic music again with Circle of Enrichment

April – Heygo tour

The Board approved this winter program.

Bob and Debbie will schedule a games event to the winter program as well. It was noted that Categories is more popular than Bingo with current players

Holiday newsletter - After discussion it was decided that during the week of Dec. 19 a holiday greeting and not a newsletter should go out. The AGM and Jo Sorochinsky presentation will be in the January newsletter.

Seniors Association – no contact and no report

## **Clubs**

Bridge Club – all is well

Book Club – Only 1 book to be reviewed in April due to Jo Sorchinsky being the guest speaker. The newsletter will explain how members can purchase her book. The book club will rate her book and post it in the newsletter. A sticker idea was discussed as having Jo sign stickers and these will be sent to those attending the April book club meeting. Joan will send a \$50 LCBO gift card to Jo thanking her for her AGM presentation.

Theatre – Debbie will put in the newsletter how to screen Jesus Christ Superstar and Come from Away and this will be published in the newsletter. Stratford does have bus trips but this may not be a good idea for us due to covid-19 issues. Shaw and Soul Pepper tours will be tabled for a 2022 fall trip rather than a spring trip.

Classical Music – the group is keen to organize an in-person event so this will be tabled until 2022.

## **New Business**

Mailbox - The cost is \$293 per year. There was discussion as to whether we should keep it as it is expensive and a lot of work for Jennifer to keep checking it as it is not used much apart from membership fees but increasingly those fees are paid via e-transfer. The alternative would be to change the address to Joan's home address but that would mean having the address changed every time a there is a new treasurer. The annual mailbox payment is due in January so the usage of the mailbox will be monitored until that time. Comments were made that it is professional for an organization to have a permanent mailing address and is necessary for our contract with Constant Contact.

Placement Design Student - the position has been advertised in the Design School and some interest has been shown.

## **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday Jan. 25, 12-2 pm

Adjournment – Trish Robinson

Minutes submitted by Barb Dunlop