

**Wellington District 31 Executive Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, September 19, 2019 @ 9:00 am**  
**UGSB Board Room, Guelph ON**

**Present:** Stephen O'Connell, Anne Smith, Nancy Baker, Michael Curtis,  
Mary Hermann, Brenda McGinnis, Marina Howlett, Pam Niesiobedzki,  
Joan Miller, Joan Berry, Joyce Barnes, Pat Bruder, Frank Tersigni, Richard  
Goodbrand, Shirley Goodbrand, John Ritchie  
Lynn Morrison, Carol Christie

**1. Welcome:** Stephen welcomed everyone to the September 19 meeting.

**2. Approval of/Additions to the Agenda:**

**Additions:** 1. **Merit Travel** to be added to **Other**

**Motion** to approve the additions and the Agenda: **moved by** Carol Christie, seconded by **Pat Bruder, carried**

**3. Approval of the June 3, 2019 Minutes**

Changes were made to **Fall/Spring Senate 2019/2020**: add "on the District Executive" at the end of sentence.

Change made to date for **Brigadoon**: Sept. 24 not 4

Additions: **Spring Luncheon**: Next years has been booked and a down payment has been made.

**Motion** to approve the June 3, 2019 Minutes **moved by** Pat Bruder, **seconded** by Brenda McGinnis, **carried**

**4. Reports**

**\*President:** Stephen O'Connell

Thanks to those who have attended their Workshop at Provincial in Toronto.

The **Code of Conduct** can be found on the Provincial website. It will be placed in the Communications binder. It was revised in May 2019. A two-page shortened version is available. The main point is to have respect for each other.

There was a discussion concerning our keeping hard copies of reports from Provincial. John Ritchie said we could keep them on a USB stick. There was much discussion on this topic. It was decided that we would keep hard copies, replacing them when necessary and destroying old ones.

**\*Pension and Retirement Concerns: Marina Howlett**

No report was given. This committee's work has been incorporated into that of other committees at the Provincial level. Any new information be put in the newsletters.

**\* District Governance: Marina Howlett**

Some work has been done on this model. At present, we are waiting for more information from Provincial. Any further local meetings are on hold.

**\*Treasurer: Mike Curtis**

Mike Curtis presented the Financial report for September 19, 2019.

There was a discussion concerning expenses over the summer. They were office and executive in nature.

There was a discussion of expense reimbursement. Everyone is fine with what has been done in the past. Stephen suggested that there be a Spending Policy as part of our Governance policy.

Brenda McGinnis mentioned that \$400.00 is a good budget amount for the Wellness Workshop.

**Motion** to accept the Wellington District 31 Financial Statement for September 19, 2019: **moved by** Pam Niesiobedzki, **seconded by** Frank Tersigni, **carried**.

**\*Goodwill: Joyce Barnes, Joan Berry**

Joyce Barnes thanked the Goodwill Committee for all their work doing Birthday cards.

Joan Berry gave a report on the Goodwill Workshop.

One item was to encourage members to have a will.

Foundation: October is Social Isolation month. Information is on the Provincial website, called RISE. A presentation will be given at the luncheon with brochures being placed on the tables.

An idea was given at the workshop that we invite members to come to our executive meetings to see what goes on.

**\*Membership Carol Christie**

54 invitations to our Fall Luncheon have been sent to new members.

We have 1373 RTO/ERO members. We have had 3 members move to other Districts. There was a discussion as to why this might happen.

**\*Recruitment: Frank Tersigni**

Prior to the next RPW, visits will be made to all schools to hand out posters with Workshop info.

RPWs across the districts went well.

**\* Benefits: Pat Bruder**

Pat asked that we read the Newsletter for new info. He told us there is a shortage of some ODB drugs and that dispensing costs are going up. Drug companies are amalgamating. We should have more info by March meeting. Costs will go up and drugs will not be available. Benefits costs will go up in December.

**\*Political Advocacy: Brenda McGinnis**

Letters of support from RTO/ERO will be sent to all Education groups. The list of cuts in Education and Health, which are staggering, can be found online.

We were reminded that the Election is Oct. 21 but that we can vote anytime on the Elections Canada website, at the Elections Canada office on Speedvale Ave. or at advanced polls over Thanksgiving weekend. Volunteers are still needed.

Meet the Candidate will be Sept. 26 at the Italian Canadian Club at 7:00 pm. There will be an RTO/ERO District 31 table; volunteers are needed to man table. This is put on by the Coalition for Social Justice.

**\*Social Justice: Richard Goodbrand**

There has been no info from Wellington-Halton Hills, Perth and Huron concerning any Candidate meetings. On Sept. 28, there will be a movie "Election Day in Canada" at the bookshelf at 2:00 pm. Please preregister if you wish to go.

There is a Water Justice Conference on Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> in Guelph. James Gordon is on tour singing about water conservation. He will be in Fergus.

**\*Travel: Lynn Morrison**

Brigadoon is on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>.

Pele Island trip had only 15 going so they have been added to Great Canadian's trip.

Ideas for next year:

Fall: Day Cruise: Port Dover, Peterborough, Collingwood or Lady Muskoka

Shows: Hello Dolly, Anastasia, Phantom of the Opera or Cats

Overnight: Lake Placid, Manatoulin/Sudbury or Severn

Lodge: all in Great Canadian catalogue.

We discussed Shaw versus Mirvish shows and Stratford.

**\*Newsletter: Anne Smith**

Editing of Fall Newsletter is being done this afternoon. It will go to the printer on Monday. Thanks to John for all his work in getting the newsletters out.

Winter Newsletter: Articles are due Jan. 7 by noon. If they are not

sent as an emailed Word attachment, please submit by Jan. 2 as it takes more time to prepare.

**\*Website: John Ritchie**

Many Changes have been made to the member list. Mailchimp has changed therefore a new group had to be created. It is now back on line.

New and active members will only receive emailed newsletters.

Requests from members of other Districts will be denied.

**5. Fall Luncheon: Fergus Sportsplex**

Entertainment will be The Shout Sisters at a cost of \$200.

There will be no Craft Market this year.

A presentation will be made to JOE should they receive the funds from Project Service to Others.

Format: Welcome with Indigenous message: Stephen O'Connell,

Short message from Martha Foster, RTO Chairman,

Treasurer's Report: Mike Curtis,

Travel information: Lynn Morrison,

Foundation News: Joan Berry,

Thanks for Meal: Carol Christie,

Introduction of Shout Sisters: Pam Niesiobedzki,

Thank you: Frank Tersigni,

Final remarks: Anne Smith

Joan Miller will take care of Door Prizes, Centerpieces, tablecloths and napkins. Pat Bruder and Carol Christie will take care of the Sound System. Nancy Baker will take pictures.

**6. Next Meeting Date:** Monday, November 18, 2019

**7. Other**

As we ran out of time, Stephen O'Connell will email the executive concerning our thoughts on Hearing Life and Merit Travel.

**8. Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn: **moved by** Mike Curtis, **seconded by** Joyce Barnes, **carried**

**Time:** 12:00 pm

**Thank you to Nancy and Mike for the treats and coffee.**