

**Retired Teachers of Ontario District 31
Executive Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 7, 2011 @ 9:00 a.m.
UGDSB Boardroom, Guelph ON**

“The best way to predict the future is to create it”

1. Call to order and welcome : Stephen O’Connell

Present : Stephen O’Connell, Pat Bruder, Mary Hermann, Nancy Baker, Joyce Barnes, Pam Niesiobedzki, Anne Smith, Carol Christie, Marina Howlett, John Ritchie, Mike Curtis, Brenda McGinnis
Regrets : Joan Miller, Lynn Morrison

2. Approval of /additions to the Agenda :

Add to the agenda : “Constitution”

Motion to approve the agenda : moved by Pat Bruder; seconded by Nancy Baker
Carried

3. Approval of Minutes of November 29, 2010 Meeting

Corrections :

2. should read Fall luncheon not dinner

4. Shelley O’Connor’s name is spelled Shelli

Under membership – p. 2, it is OMERS not PMERS

Motion to approve the Minutes as ammended : moved by Pam Niesiobedzki and
Seconded by Marina Howlett ; carried

4. Reports

President’s Initial Report : Stephen O’Connell

Bob Paul will be presenting later in the meeting and asking for volunteers. Steve reminded everyone of the upcoming events that might conflict with executive members’ ability to volunteer – eg Pre-Senate Meeting, President’s Workshop, Senate.
The submission for this project is in the hands of provincial RTO/ERO.

Pension and Retirement Concerns : Marina Howlett

On April 7th, Marina will be attending the Annual Pension Meeting. There will be a lot of information in Marina’s article in the next newsletter.

Constitution : Marina Howlett

Every 6 months, after a Senate, there are changes to the constitution. Often these seem very minor, housekeeping types of changes but we are supposed to keep current. We’ll comply with these changes and submit to Provincial.

Treasurer : Mike Curtis

Mike distributed a detailed report. As of the end of December, 2010, we had \$11, 231.31 in our account. As of March 7, 2011, we have \$17, 082.54 in our account.

One suggestion was made that perhaps members who are over 80 could have their theatre trips subsidized. We have spent \$500 to subsidize trip to Stratford.

Motion to accept the report : Moved by Pat Bruder and seconded by Carol Christie
Carried

Project Service to Others –Bob Paul

An updated video was given out to the high schools. First stage of the project is completed. The proposal for the next stage has been submitted to Provincial. If the RTO/ERO committee doesn't approve the project, maybe the local district can help out? WE will wait to hear Provincial's response. The project needs volunteers. Bob presented a schedule and asked for RTO volunteers to work with students at St. James High School for a period of six weeks.

Goodwill : Joyce Barnes

The committee met in Fergus on January 5th. Joyce has been sending out helpful information from the monthly change reports to committee members.

Membership: Carol Christie

Our Retirement Planning Workshop will be on April 7th. Carol and Marina are distributing posters to UGDSB schools and sites through the mailbags and Pat, Nancy and Mary will distribute them to WCDSB schools.

Carol will advertise through some free ads in Wellington Advertiser and the Tribune.

Carol will be attending the membership workshop in Toronto on April 3rd and 4th.

Can we present to OSSTF, ETFO, OECTA groups? We will follow up with this idea.

Letter for this year's retirees – should be written in Early May and ready to go by May 26th

Next week, Stephen and Simon will be presenting to WCDSB OMERS group at ICC
Provincial office was pleased to hear that we were invited to present to this group.

Health : Pat Bruder

Mary will go to Health Workshop – June 12-13

Paul Rivard is petitioning for lower dispensing fee at Zellers – not sure where this going now

Newsletter : Anne Smith

Provincial Communication Conference – June 5-6 – Nancy will attend

April 5 – articles to Anne

April 21 – packing bee at Brenda's

Political Advocacy :

It seems that a Federal Election is going to occur this spring. Again, members are encouraged to become involved and to vote. The Provincial election will be on October

6th. The Political Advocacy (not the old name of Political Action) article in the newsletter will address members' involvement in these two upcoming elections.

Travel : Lynn Morrison is still away in Florida but ,at present ,*Jesus Christ Superstar* trip to Stratford is still on for May 30th as is the Chicago Trip on June 17 to 20th. Cost for this trip is \$585.

Social : Spring Dinner

May 11, 2011 at Victoria Park East

Dinner costs about \$36 a person – subsidized by RTO to \$25 a person

Pam was able to book Peter Appleyard and a trio - \$2500 plus HST

Limited seating – 200 to 210 people

Format :

5:30 – Social

5:50- Welcome/Introductions/Grace

6:00 – Dinner

7:00 – 7:10 – Business

7:15 – Entertainment

Motion : Pam Niesiobedzki moved that we draw a name from the list of those members who receive their newsletter electronically for a prize of a free luncheon in the Fall and that we publish this incentive in the newsletter.

Mike Curtis seconded. Carried

Motion : Brenda McGinnis moved that we also award a free lunch to a member whose name is drawn from a list of those members who sign up at the Spring dinner to receive their newsletter electronically.

Pam Niesiobedzki seconded. Carried

Motion : Pat Bruder moved that we charge \$25 for the spring dinner and that RTO subsidize the meal by \$11.

Mary Hermann seconded. Carried

Motion : Mary Hermann moved that we purchase a stamp that will state : “Donated by the Retired Teachers of Ontario Wellington District 31” to be used to stamp the books that we donate to the Literacy Council.

Pam Niesiobedzki seconded. Carried

Motion : Pam Niesiobedzki moved that we buy 10 gift certificates for \$20 from various sources for door prizes at the banquet. Nancy Baker seconded. Carried

Fall Luncheon : Alma Bible Church – September 28 or October 12 or 13th.

Pam will firm up date.

For Fall luncheon, we'll try to have a display area for “Crafty Boomers”. We are inviting members who sell art and crafts to do so at our luncheon. The first 8 who apply to Mary and Nancy will be invited to display and sell their work.

Website : John Ritchie

Send material to John.

How long should we leave material on the website?

At what point do we pull material? Suggestion : after 4 months

Best uses of website – travel information

Promote trips on website and newsletter

Carol is the contact when Lynn is away but she doesn't have information on trips for this year

Post some of Merit Travel trips

Have link to Provincial RTO

Pam suggested that we have links to the theatre groups that gave us tickets for door prizes.

Public Relations : Nancy Baker and Mary Hermann

“Crafty Boomers” for Fall luncheon

Mercury Advertising – under “Events”

Wellington Advertiser – “Coming Events”

Guelph Tribune – Diary

For SNAP – take picture and send it in with brief write up to publicize our book donations to Guelph Literacy

Maybe publicize our support of the Project Service to Others

President : Stephen O'Connell

Reminders of :

March 18 – WCDSB CUPE Workshop – Simon and Stephen

Pre-Senate Meeting at Victoria East on May 10

District Presidents' Workshop April 17/18

Spring Senate Meeting May 16-18 – Stephen, Brenda, Carol, Anne

Margaret Clarke is the Provincial liaison to District 31

Please consider staying on the executive again next year. We need a second vice president.

Next Meeting : May 24th – 9 a.m. at UGDSB Office

Adjourn :

Moved by Mike Curtis and seconded by Nancy Baker. Carried