

NBSRT Saint John Branch

Minutes

March 20, 2014

Call to order: 10:07 at Chateau Champlain President Barry Harbinson called meeting to order.

Attendance: Barry Harbinson, John Sheehan, Pat Dugay, Ellen Palmer, Mary Ann Patterson, Marg Urquhart, Larry McPhee, Gerry Maybe, Judy Braman, Patricia Roy, Kathy Wilson

Regrets: Nancy Steele, Linda Perrin, Netta Chase, Jill Jollineau, Robert Taylor, Bill Mahaffy, Kathy Dalling, Jean Cameron, Norma Murphy, Carol Harris Raynes

Motion to adopt Agenda: Moved by Marg and Seconded by John. **Carried**

Minutes: Moved by Pat Duguay, seconded by Pat to adopt as circulated. **Carried**

Treasurer's Report: Nil

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Director's Report: Nil

Pension Committee:

1. Barry presented a flyer indicating active teachers would be meeting at Centennial School on March 25th and marching to Trevor Holder's office around 4:50.

Questions around the table: why are we marching?

Comments: There needs to be large numbers or media will indicate lack of interest by teachers. Is the concern for teachers teaching to 65 or losing 5% per year early? Are there survivor benefits? There is concern for young teachers who will be hit hardest.

2. Marilyn and Larry's presentation at Barry's. Outstanding unknown issue what is the guaranteed proposed fix number for indexing/cost of living? Marg indicated that compounding could occur.

There is no real information yet on what is in the proposal or a specific indexing number. The issue that active teachers didn't support teachers on group insurance is still stinging and there is an undercurrent of retired who wonder if we should be falling in line with their fight? Generally, there seems to be a consensus that we will take a hit to help active teachers who could lose as much as 35% of possible pension.

3. All teachers fall under the Teachers' Pension Act and NBSRT can join in the discussion but have no official voice. There is nothing on record that allows retired teachers a vote to accept or reject. If proposal (by NBTF) is damaging to retired teachers what recourse do we have? Who is representing us and are they (the Board) going to rubber stamp whatever the proposal is? It appears the provincial NBSRT is not showing the desired leadership on this issue. We do not have legal representation. What is the protocol when the Government accepts or rejects the Federation's proposal?

We need strategies in place for the various scenarios.

MOTION: Moved by Marg and seconded by Ellen that: A letter be sent to Roger Nesbitt with a copy to the Board stating that the Saint John Branch feels strongly that there is a need for a meeting to discuss planning various strategies based on the proposal's acceptance or rejection. **Carried. ACTION : BARRY**

4. Concern was also discussed regarding the lack of communication between local active teachers and retired teachers.

Telephone Committee: There was discussion on who continues to need a call. This will be addressed in newsletter. **ACTION: MARY ANN**

Committee for Group Insurance: Larry McPhee has taken over the chairmanship of this committee.

Social: 1. Events calendar has been distributed.

Social: 2. Stonehammer is scheduled for June 26th

Motion: moved by Pat Duguay and seconded by Marg that the social committee be given a \$500 subsidy for the bus. **Carried. ACTION: MARG**

3. There was discussion on those signing up and not showing up. People will be chased on a go forward basis.

4. St. Marks in Quispamsis is booked for Fall Meeting.

5. Marg expressed thanks to Pat Duguay and Norma Murphy for their ongoing help.

School Days Museum: Nil

Scholarship: Communication is ongoing.

Web Site: 1. up to date.

2. There was discussion on posting articles of interest to teachers. Send to Ellen with a copy to Barry.

3. The committee is looking into purchasing a web program. They may approach the Board for this one time purchase.

Wellness: 1. Bill is sick. He is looking into planning an information session on geocaching.

Motion: Moved by John and seconded by Kathy that the Wellness committee seek out discounts at health clubs/gyms for members of the Saint John Branch of NBSRT. **Carried. ACTION: BILL**

New Business: Netta will need all information by April 1st for the next newsletter which will be our last till fall. **ACTION: ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Marg offered her camp for a gathering. **ACTION:** Date will be determined at April 17th meeting.

Motion: Moved by Marg and seconded by Larry that a donation to the scholarship fund be placed in memory of Lynne White's mother. Lynne was a longtime volunteer of the local Branch. **Carried. ACTION: KATHY**

There was discussion regarding soliciting information from current and potential members as to what they want the association to do. May be time for a twenty minute round table at AGM.

There was discussion regarding having a paid executive director at the provincial level. **ACTION:** Further discussion at April meeting.

Motion: Moved by Mary Ann and seconded by Gerry to set up a committee to look into arranging discounts for card carrying local branch members at various companies in the city. **Carried. ACTION: GERRY AGREED TO CHAIR.**

Marg : Motion to adjourn. 11:59

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Braman

For Jill Jollineau