



# New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers

## Saint John Branch

Minutes

Thursday May 21 2020

ZOOM Meeting

Present: Rose Theriault, Kathy Dalling, Mary Ann Patterson, Kathy Wilson, Barry Harbinson, Brian Grieg, Netta Chase, Marg Urquhart, Nancy Steele, Ellen Palmer, Pat Murray, Judy Braman, Marijke Blok, Pat Loughery

Absent with Regrets: Pat Roy, Dianne Stackhouse, Bob Bonner

Judy opened the meeting. Pat M asked to have an item added to the agenda – approved.

**Approval of Minutes of previous meeting:** moved by Ellen, seconded by Nancy. carried

**Pat reported on membership:** 586 members in minutes; 597 will actually appear in report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Barry reported a surplus of \$767.70. Currently in bank: \$11, 200.90. Rebate of AGM deposit: \$500. Total in bank \$11, 700.90

- Did not budget for Fall activities but Social Committee still has budget of \$4000.

Moved by Barry, seconded by Mary Ann budget approved.

Kathy D. enquired about which document. Barry responded that it was the current budget year –May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021.

**Director's Report:** Pat M reported on changes to the constitution and by-laws – to be found on NBSRT website. She feels they are reasonable and essential; will be attending meeting on June 16.

Two resolutions from Moncton branch:

- asking for 50/50 of money collected through dues
- asking for a review of expenditures in all areas since 2016

**Pat** would like direction on how to vote.

**Brian** said he didn't care if resolutions passed or not, as long as dues don't increase.

**Marg** advised that a change in split would have an impact on Provincial budget.

**Judy** said we should return to Biennial meetings, held in Moncton or Fredericton. **Brian** asked if Judy could put this in a motion for the AGM. **Marg** responded that this would require a constitutional change – not enough time before meeting.

**Barry** recommended that we vote against their resolution on the 50/50 split, as it would curtail the abilities of the Provincial body.

**Judy** suggested that the Provincial body should be looking at things like Insurance, Pension, etc.

**Kathy D** stated that Province should look at increasing monthly fees, based on the needs of the overall budget.

**Pat M** commented that Moncton's resolutions were not maliciously intended but rather reflected the various stages of retirement to which their members belong.

(First part ended)

**Barry** set up "second" meeting. Meeting reZOOMed (ha!) at 10:35.

**Judy** suggested that we table constitutional discussion (NBSRT SJ constitution) until we can have a face-to-face meeting. She went on to say that the biggest thing we need to discuss is what we can do for our members.

**Nancy** asked if Moncton has become more active in the last couple of years. **Barry** replied that they have a new president and they are trying to do more activities and subsidize heavily.

**Brian** said that many of the Moncton RT were very active in the NBTA.

**Pat M** – finishing her earlier thoughts – maybe looking at expenses, as Moncton suggests, would help to streamline costs across the organization. We have to be vocal about Pensions and Group Insurance.

**Kathy D said** Group Insurance meets 3 times per year. It is cheaper to meet in Dalhousie than in Fredericton. She went on to say that some committees have as many as 16 members, which makes them more costly. She suggested that Province should review committee expenditures.

**Judy** suggested that we support the resolution.

**Marg** moved that we have Barry pursue upgrading ZOOM for future meetings; seconded by **Pat L. Motion passed.**

**AGM Committee Report:** **Barry** discussed resolutions regarding 2021 AGM. He felt we should not offer to host the meeting as we could not be assured that it would happen. He also recommended that 2021 meeting, if held, take place in Fredericton.

**Marg** suggested that **Barry** take that information to the next Provincial Executive Meeting.

**River Cross – Judy** asked for a motion to submit a cheque to River Cross. In view of the numerous meetings held there this year, it was moved by **Marijke**, seconded by **Nancy**, that a cheque for \$300 be given to River Cross in thanks for the use of the facility. **Motion passed.**

### **What to do for Membership:**

**Brian** moved that we have a special edition of the newsletter, to update members on current happenings; seconded by **Marg**.

**Kathy D** suggested that updates on Group Insurance have been sent out but people are still confused.

**Marg** recommended that some of the AGM information be sent to members. **Barry** responded that that is Provincial jurisdiction but our focus should be local.

**Judy** suggested we could provide pertinent phone numbers, to answer members' questions.

**Brian** advised that we return to the original motion, then determine what should be in a newsletter. **Kathy D** questioned the need, at present.

**Mary Ann** asked "Why not put out to members what would normally be released/discussed at the AGM?"

**Judy** responded that it is important to keep in touch.

**Mary Ann** enquired about awards that are normally given out at the AGM. **Judy** replied that it would be good to announce the awards.

**Nancy** and **Marg** suggested that it is nicer to receive the award in person.

**Pat L** suggested that we announce awards in a newsletter and tell people they will receive them in the Fall.

**Judy** said she would send an email to committee heads, asking for submissions.

**Mary Ann** – can we have dates?

**Marg** – has motion passed?

**Vote on the motion – PASSED.**

**Judy** asked if we should have another meeting. **Brian** recommended that the deadline be June 1<sup>st</sup>. **Marg** enquired if we should wait until after the AGM.

**Judy replied** that she would only ask for reports that would have gone to the AGM. Then we would add Pat M's info from the AGM.

**Moved by Mary Ann, seconded by Kathy D** – that we purchase our ZOOM membership at \$16.67 a month, currently with a \$40 discount, for a total of \$200/year. **Motion passed.**

**Barry** enquired as to when we would like our next meeting, suggesting May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. **Judy** suggested June 4<sup>th</sup> would give us more time to go online and review the proposed resolutions.

**Brian** moved to adjourn.

**Kathy D** had questions regarding how to acquire names of 2020 retirees.

**Second ZOOM session ended**