

**Retired Teacher's of Ontario
Executive Meeting Minutes
Monday December 1, 2014 @ 9:00 am
UGDSB Boardroom, Guelph. ON**

1. Call to Order and Welcome: *Brenda McGinnis*

Present: Brenda McGinnis, Stephen O'Connell, Nancy Baker, Pam Niesiobedzki, Anne Smith, Mike Curtis, Joyce Barnes, John Ritchie, Marina Howlett, Joe Tersigni, Joan Berry, Joan Miller

Absent: Mary Hermann, Pat Bruder, Lynn Morrison, Carol Christie, Rick Goodbrand, Mike Essex

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

Motion by Marina Howlett to approve the agenda; seconded by Joe Tersigni; Carried

3. Approval of the September 8, 2014 Minutes: *Brenda McGinnis*

Motion by Pam Niesiobedzki to approve the Sept. 8, 2014 minutes; seconded By Nancy Baker; carried

4. Next Meeting Dates: *Brenda McGinnis*

Monday March 2, 2015

Monday May 25, 2015

5. Follow Ups: *Brenda McGinnis*

Fall Luncheon: great comments; loved Blazin' Fiddles; cost \$1200 but worth it; Arts/Crafts Vendors: sales were down this year; crowd came later; do again next Year but advertise event more and get new Crafters

New Retirees felt like they were among a lot of old people; therefore, they need a Reason for being there; possible Health Plan Presentation; personally contact New Retirees by mail, card, phone call, etc.; Executive members to contact new Retirees and personally invite them to Spring Luncheon; invite them to sit at your Table; get list of Retirees from both last and this year

Wellness Workshop: 15 attended; really worthwhile; Eldercare offered through Our Benefits; care-givers also benefit; posted on website; put in newsletter; OTIP Doesn't offer Eldercare; RTO (through Johnson Inc.) only has it; Federations are Aligning more with OTIP because OTIP offers them money for new members Where RTO doesn't; OTIP can't get Cadillac package after 65; therefore, their Benefits go up; RTO's benefits don't because members are already agents for Johnson Inc.; this is a Provincial problem; need better marketing for RTO; Guelph Curling Club was great venue

6. Reports: *Brenda McGinnis*

President Report: *Brenda McGinnis*

Update – Project Service to Others: give to Senior Games again; Brenda to write Up report and submit by due date: June 22, 2015 @ 4:30 pm; 2015 Senior Games

Will be held in Cambridge; our contribution will pay for expenses i.e. equipment, Our participation, etc.; check with Waterloo District to see if they are contributing To this; if so, we need to pick another project at March meeting; put out reach to Members in January newsletter

Newspaper Ad – Mercury and Wellington Advertiser: ‘Don’t Drink and Drive’

Ad: rather give to Food Bank or other charitable organization versus newspaper No public recognition from Food Bank, etc. donations whereas newspaper ad Does; do PHOTO OP with Snap/Tribune instead; should funds for RTO ads come From Provincial not District funds? Provincial Office have 5 year plan to cut Monetary funds from local Districts; Provincial Office have had NO CUTS

Motion by John Ritchie to donate to an appropriate charity in lieu of ads in Guelph Mercury and Wellington Advertiser; seconded by Pam Niesiobedzki; Carried

Charitable Donation Submission: K-9 Project for Vets was declined last time So going to resubmit our application to Provincial; get Project endorsed by local Legion

Requests: 1. CFUW – funds to publicize forum re Child Care (see white sheets Dated Nov.18, 2014); we can advertise on our website, newsletter but we can’t Afford this

Motion by Mike Curtis to publicize this event on our website and in our Newsletter; seconded by Pam Niesiobedzki; carried

2. Retired Women’s group asking for financial support;

Can’t afford it at this point

Letter Expressing Disappointment to Provincial Executive: Brenda will Write/send letter to Provincial expressing her/our disappointment on how Provincial Executive handled/rejected Stephen’s, Rick’s and Marina’s previous Committee status/reappointments; our executive members were either verbally Told minutes before presenting their report (Marina) at Senate or received a Form letter in mail (Stephen, Rick) not appointed; letter will include step-by-step Process on how provincial failed these people; Brenda will talk with other Districts to get better cross-section of what’s happening; at next meeting will Examine Provincial and their protocol; Districts need to “shake up” this pattern; Brenda’s letter will be sent to Provincial after we get to proof the draft; Brenda Will send a copy to president’s she knows for further feed back, ideas, etc. before Sending it to Provincial Executive

Pension and Retirement Concerns: *Marina Howlett*

Working teachers unpaid when on 5-day voluntary leaves; pension contributions Are still being paid though; OAS @65; Teachers’ pension connected to CPP; Amount is deducted; OAS threshold is \$70,000
(See newsletter article for more info)

Treasurer’s Report: *Mike Curtis*

(See Financial Report dated: December 1, 2014); acct. sitting with about \$1400; Why are we not getting more \$ from Provincial? Need record of received funds Over last 10 years

Motion by Stephen O’Connell to include a scheduled time (half hour) during our Next meeting to discuss Provincial’s future funding cutbacks; seconded by Joyce

Barnes; carried

Goodwill: *Joyce Barnes*

Meeting today to distribute lists of members; will state in newsletter that over 80 Members will receive their birthday cards at the beginning of their birth month; Provincial meeting (with Carol) nice to match faces to names; lots of time spent On getting associate members; send flowers to Mary Hermann (surgery); Nancy Baker will pick up Xmas Poinsettia and deliver it to Mary on our behalf; Joan Berry sent her a card from Retired Women's Teachers

Membership: *Brenda McGinnis (Carol Christie absent)*

RPW – (see Memorandum white sheets) date not confirmed as of yet; ON-LINE Registration could be a problem; too late, can't get in or just show up then not Enough written material for them

Health: *Brenda McGinnis (Pat Bruder absent)*

Pat going to apply to Provincial Health Committee; will he be accepted????

Newsletter: *Anne Smith*

Due date for articles: January 7, 2015;

Next newsletter date: March 13, 2015 – articles to Anne

March 24, 2015 – mail out

Dates to Remember: April 7, 2015 – newsletter/Spring Luncheon registration in Members' hands

May 1, 2015 – deadline for Spring Luncheon registration

Remind members info on website; include menu, venue, entertainment in

Newsletter

Political Advocacy: *Brenda McGinnis*

Brenda sent Christmas cards to MP's and MPP's in our district

Motion by Brenda McGinnis to renew our membership with Guelph Coalition for Social Justice and pay our \$50 membership fee; seconded

By Nancy Baker; carried

Travel: *Brenda McGinnis (Lynn Morrison absent)*

(See email from Lynn regarding up-coming trips' agenda)

Website: *John Ritchie*

Many Districts moved over to Drupal Modular System and having trouble;

We are one of few Districts keeping it simple; therefore we're successful;

Changed menu system month ago; now drop down/fly out; RTO Provincial

Website most difficult to use

7. Public Relations/Christmas Donations: *Brenda McGinnis*

Arrange for local papers to be present to take picture of cheque presentations;

"Connected" executive member will notify local paper and set up time/date

Motion by Pam Niesiobedzki to make a charitable donation totaling \$600 to be Distributed as follows: Guelph Salvation Army \$200 (Pat); Arthur Lions Club \$100 (Joyce); East Wellington Community Centre \$100 (Anne); Centre Wellington Food Bank \$100 (Joan B.); St. Vincent de Paul \$100 (Joe); seconded by Marina Howlett; Carried

8. Spring Luncheon: *Brenda McGinnis*

Date: Thursday May 7, 2015 at Italian Canadian Club, Guelph is booked; change Price per person from \$20 to \$25

Motion by Marina Howlett, effective Jan. 1, 2015, the cost for our Luncheons will Be \$25 per person; seconded by Joe Tersigni; carried

Suggestions for Entertainment: stick to music;

1. Steve Binder 2. The Fun Boys 3. Rick Townsend and Wife 4. Tartan Tairs? Terrors? 5. Two of a Kind

9. Wellness Workshops: *Brenda McGinnis*

In April have Guelph Police Fraud Unit do workshop on FRAUD; 1 hour Presentation; possible venues: Community Room @ Zehrs Imperial; cost \$25; up to 50 people; Guelph Curling Club; cost \$25; bring a non-member With you; need to book ASAP so can go in Jan. newsletter; DATE: last week In April; Brenda will confirm this; next two Wellness Workshops could be In Fergus or Arthur, but most of our members are in Guelph

10. Other: *Brenda McGinnis*

Next meeting dates: March 2, 2015 and May 25, 2015; confirmed by Stephen O'Connell

11. Adjournment: *Brenda McGinnis*

Motion by Stephen O'Connell to adjourn meeting; seconded by Pam Niesiobedzki; Carried; concluded at 11:35 am; Special thanks to Mike Curtis for coffee and Nancy Baker for treats!