

**RTOERO Wellington District 31 Virtual Executive Meeting
Monday March 21, 2022 @ 3:00 pm**

Minutes

Present: Stephen O'Connell, Anne Smith, Nancy Baker, Richard Goodbrand, Shirley Goodbrand, Brenda McGinnis, Joan Miller, Joan Berry, Linda May Bell, John Ritchie, marina Howlett, Mike Curtis, Pam Niesiobedzki, Lenore Ralph, Scott Montgomery, Tim Cunningham

Regrets: Amanda Leathem, Joyce Barnes

1. Welcome – Anne Smith

2. Approval of/Addition to Agenda:

Add to Other: Unlearn Webinar – Joan Miller

Motion to approve agenda by Nancy Baker, seconded by Pam Niesiobedzki; carried

3. Approval of January 17, 2022 Minutes – Joan Miller

Motion to approve the online amended minutes; moved by Joan Miller, seconded by Lenore Ralph; carried

4. Treasurer's Report – Mike Curtis

(See insert dated March 17, 2022)

Motion to approve the financial report, moved by Mike Curtis, seconded by Scott Montgomery; carried

5. RTOERO Office Updates – Anne Smith

- District 31 member Survey request
- AM/Forum May 16 – 17, 2022: our 3 representatives, Anne Smith, Nancy Baker and Richard Goodbrand are attending in person
- By Dec. 23/22 – Districts to make 2-year plan to reduce reserve to 50% of annual grants plan by 2023; Mike to look into ways to reduce our reserves; as a non-profit organization haven't been able to use it
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion webinar and resource handout: Head Office pushes handout resources
- Upcoming Meetings:
 1. March 23/22 from 10:00 to 11:00 – Political Advocacy Meeting re upcoming elections
 2. March 24/22 from 1:00 to 2:00 – Community Grant Info Session
 3. March 31/22 from 1:00 to 2:30 – District Presidents Meeting
 4. April 14, 21, 27/22 at 1:00 – Virtual Political Advocacy Town Halls
 5. April 28/22 – Foundation Webinar with Dr. Paula Rochon
 6. May 5/22 - AM/Forum pre-meeting for Corporate Members/Alternatives to review motions
 7. May 5/22 from 1:00 to 2:30 – District Presidents Meeting

- 8. May 16 & May 17/22 – AM/Forum – Hybrid Model
- 9. May 31/22 – Foundation Webinar with Dr. Gail Low
- 10. June 1/22 by 4:30 – Community Grant Applications due

6. Newsletter – Anne Smith, Tim Cunningham

- Email responses from Winter newsletter:
- 1. Update to one column versus two – why not? Too expensive; suggestion for member to print out email version or receive hard copy by mail;
- Question: do we have supportive software for the visually impaired Answer: colour/photos – maybe hrder to see; black & white print in Arial 12 – meet the criteria
- 2. Simon Leibovitz commented on how he enjoyed reading our informative and knowledgeable Winter edition
- Deadline to reach our members – end of May/2022
- Deadline to send to printer and to Executive – May 9/22
- Date for article submission – Friday April 22/22
- Editorial Committee Meeting – April 26/22 in early evening

7. Political Advocacy – Brenda McGinnis

- April 14th, 21st, 27th @ 1:00 pm – Virtual Political Advocacy Town Hall meetings to meet candidates; have \$2000 from RTOERO to spend on Political Advocacy
- Regional PAC Meeting this Wednesday, March23rd
- How much money do we give Rick for GW Coalition for Social Justice?
- Rick to come up with an amount and email us for approval

8. Governance Document – Marina Howlett

- Next Steps: Governance Committee to meet via Zoom on May 2/22 @ 3:00 PM to discuss document/policies/next steps

9. Community Grant – Rick Goodbrand

- See insert dated March 21, 2022 numbered 11 & 12 section 2
- Two groups expressed interest:
 - 1. Focus On Nature and
 - 2. Food4Kids
- Concern raised that we chose a “food” group last year; too similar
- Rick has made contact with Simon Bell, coordinator for Focus On Nature and will work with him on the application

Motion that RTOERO District 31 Executive accept Focus On Nature as our 2022 applicant for the Community Grant of \$4000; moved by Richard Goodbrand, seconded by John Ritchie; carried

Marketing and Communication Committee – Rick Goodbrand

- Meeting held on March 21, 2022 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM

- See insert #10 dated March 21, 2022 which includes highlights from February plus Monday morning meeting
- Information posted on all our social media

GWCSJ – Rick Goodbrand

- The Big Umbrella Update: see insert dated March 21, 2022 numbered 11 & 12 section 1:
- GWCSJ table at Guelph Market every Saturday morning
- 2 shifts to be peopled – 7:00 – 9:30 and 9:30 – 12 noon; let Rick know if/when you're available to staff the table
- Cost \$119/monthly shared among partners
- April 6th – (Zoom) Education: A Better Tomorrow Begins Here
- April 20th – (Zoom) Environment and Climate Change
- May 12th from 7:00-8:30 – Town Hall Hybrid @ ICC: all 4 major parties' candidates to be present

12. Liaison Meeting with Martin Higgs – Rick Goodbrand

- See insert dated March 21, 2022 numbered 11 & 12 section 3:
- Concern about lack of contact between Board of Directors and Districts
- Martin assured Districts he would attempt to attend meetings via zoom or in person whenever possible
- Districts to contact Martin if reviewing/discussing Governance Documents; changes being considered by Board

13. Other - Joan Miller

- Unlearn Webinar hosted by Wendy Brum, President for District #11 Waterloo on March 21, 2022 from 9:30 to 10:30
- Presented by Abhi Ahluwalia and Lakhdeep Singh from **UNLEARN.COM**
- Very informative and thought-provoking discussions on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Perhaps consider them for future wellness workshop
- Social Media Update – Rick Goodbrand: District 31 FB page has 103 followers

14. Future Meetings Discussion – Anne Smith

- Date to return to in-person Executive meetings – Fall 2022
- Date to return to in-person Luncheons – Fall 2022
- Luncheon: DATE: Thursday October 27, 2022
- VENUE: Italian Canadian Club, Guelph ON
- Pam called Roxanne and confirmed date
- Mike to send Roxanne \$500 deposit
- Cost \$31 per person: how much to subsidize? Considering charging \$10 per person; if they attend event, will get their cheque back

- We can begin set up at 9:30; Meeting tentatively begin 10:30-11:00; Lunch at noon; Entertainment after Lunch
- Brenda to email “tried and true” list of past entertainers for executive to peruse and decide on the blockbuster choice
- Craft Show to be considered at 2023 Fall Luncheon
- NEXT MEETING: Monday June 6, 2022 @ 3:00 pm via ZOOM

15. ADJOURNMENT – Anne Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:31 pm