

**Retired Teacher's of Ontario District #31  
Executive Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday September 12, 2012 @ 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, Carol Christie, Mike Curtis, John Ritchie, Marina Howlett, Pat Bruder, Rick Goodbrand, Lynn Morrison, Mary Hermann, Joan Berry, Joan Miller

**Absent:** Anne Smith, Joyce Barnes

Thank you card email from Pauline Brown

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

**Motion** by Carol Christie to approve the agenda; seconded by Pat Bruder; carried

**3. Approval of the May 28, 2012 Minutes:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Amendments: #1 change Goodman to Goodbrand; in Travel change cost \$9 to \$99; #6 change Spring to Fall, change Wendel to Wendell

**Motion** by Pat Bruder to approve amendments of the May 28, 2012 minutes; seconded by Joan Berry; carried

**4. Next Meeting:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Problem with Nov. 19th date; changed to Monday Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Reports:** *Brenda McGinnis*

**Pension and Retirement Concerns:** *Marina Howlett*

RPW in two weeks, new documents will be available; Provincial Gov't doing overhaul on Pension Benefits Act and Teacher Pension Act; new legislature always "go forward", need to curb costs, no place for growth due to low interest rates; want to curb 12% contribution' looking for other ways to renegotiate' lots of speculations, outcome unknown, "fair pensions for all" bring good pensions down to NO PENSIONS; pension reform on the horizon will impact our pensions

**Treasurer:** *Mike Curtis*

(See financial report dated May 28, 2012)

**Motion** by Pat Bruder to approve the May 28, 2012 financial report; seconded by Mary Hermann; carried

**Goodwill:** *Brenda McGinnis (Joyce Barnes absent)*

Paul Thompson passed away in August; send \$50 charitable donation to September memorial

**Motion** by Marina Howlett to donate \$50 to the Charitable Foundation for Geriatric Studies in Paul Thompson's memory; seconded by Nancy Baker; carried

Mike to send cheque to Foundation and let family know; put Facts Info Sheets for Seniors on website and announce at Fall Luncheon; Documents H-3 make 50 copies and put on Fall Luncheon tables, Rick will make copies and bring to Luncheon

**Membership:** *Carol Christie*

1177 to 1199 increase in membership; RPW this year? Possible dates: April 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>; Joan Berry to help Carol organize workshop; free postcards from Simon L. (RTO); drop off posters at schools; call new retirees and invite them to Fall Luncheon (receive complimentary ticket)

**Member Services Committee:** *Stephen O'Connell*

New chair Joanne Weekes; members nominated and appointed by Provincial RTO' seats rotate each year, on for three years; posters and postcards their work; membership open to all education community members; Steve our liaison, sends out current topics to districts but has only received two responses; encourages responses for input; meet yearly with Merit Travel, recent long stay info sheets very reasonable; next meeting: Dec. 4, 2012.

**Health:** *Pat Bruder*

See article in Newsletter; hopefully have "Health Matters" on our website; Shoppers Drug Mart partnership what's in it for us? Coupon points; SDM has \$14M; can SDM publish "Health Matters" for us? Ask again next year; Canada Post Distribution will give us blue sorting boxes, drop off and deliver next day

**Newsletter:** *Brenda McGinnis (Anne Smith absent)*

Dates for next newsletter (with Anne's approval)

Articles due: Jan. 11, 2013

Packing bee: Jan. 22, 2013 or Jan. 29, 2013; date will be finalized at Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

Rick to send out hard copies to all schools; need 150 extra copies printed for both boards and senior centres

**Political Advocacy:** *Brenda McGinnis*

See article in newsletter; going on all fronts, CETA, Benefits, Elder Abuse, Hoax Emails

**Travel:** *Lynn Morrison*

Stratford Trip Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – 8 seats available; NYC Trip Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 87 people going; Agawa Canyon/Mackinac Island Trip Sept. 23, 2013 – 2 buses booked; this year Great Canadian handling money while Lynn handles names, bus locations and pick ups; Spring still open - possible suggestions: Goderich day trip; Orillia Boat Cruise/Threatre; Niagara Falls/ On the lake; Stratford "Fiddler" in fall; GLT bring poster to Fall Luncheon for "The Full Monty", Nancy to have sign up sheets, get enough people get group rate, \$50 for four plays

**Website:** *John Ritchie*

Put possible travel suggestions/survey on website and give responses to Lynn; "Health Matters" here it is, check the website, survey members on web and have hard copy survey in winter newsletter with tear off section, need more efficient communication system with members; when people do survey on web with link, can ask them for their email address; travel can also ask for emails; give info out at Luncheon; encourage members to sign up/in for info from RTO, need permission from RTO to do this; Steve do content questionnaire, John do survey, ask travel, entertainment, health, bi-weekly up-dates, email address; once list is done, who is responsible for updates? Executive or John? Who has master list? **defer** to next meeting on Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>

**Social:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Fall Luncheon Oct. 17, 2012 – see white sheet insert

**6. Election:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Slate: President: Brenda McGinnis

Past President: Stephen O'Connell

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Rick Goodbrand

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Carol Christie

Secretary: Joan Miller

Treasurer: Mike Curtis

Chairs/ Councillors:

Goodwill: Joyce Barnes

Website: John Ritchie

Health: Pat Bruder

Membership: Carol Christie

Public Relations: Mary Hermann, Nancy Baker

Pension/Retirement Concerns: Marina Howlett

Newsletter: Anne Smith

Travel: Lynn Morrison

Social: Pam Niesiobedzki, Joan Berry

Political Advocacy: Brenda McGinnis

**Motion** by Rick Goodbrand that Steve and Marina form the nominating committee for the proposed slate of officers; seconded by Pam Niesiobedzki; carried

**7. Wellness Workshops:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Subcommittee organize ideas and bring back in Spring, include Elder Abuse, put in web survey to get what people want, possible locations: Senior Centres (Guelph, Fergus), Churches, Community Centre (Fergus), Legion; **subcommittee members** – Rick, Carol, Joan B., Nancy, Brenda, Marina; will meet on Thurs. Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm at Carol Christie's house and report decisions at Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

**8. Dates to Remember:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Fall Luncheon: October 17<sup>th</sup>

Fall Senate: October 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> (Brenda, Carol, Rick, Anne)

**9. Next Meeting:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Monday Nov. 26, 2012

**10. Other:** *Brenda McGinnis*

Lynn asking for additional funds to cover costs for Stratford trip if eight tickets don't sell

**Motion** by Stephen O'Connell to provide shortfall funds up to \$300 for bus costs for Stratford trip on Oct. 17, 2012; seconded by Pam Niesiobedzki; carried

Possible scholarship of \$100 to further education – **defer** to Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> meeting

**11. Adjournment:** *Brenda McGinnis*

**Motion** by Pat Bruder to adjourn meeting; seconded by Joan Berry; carried

Meeting concluded at 11:44 am. Special thanks to Mike C. and Nancy B. for coffee and treats!