

RETIRED WOMEN TEACHERS OF ONTARIO
48TH ANNUAL MEETING
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North, Richmond Hill, Ontario.
June 2 - 3, 2004

MINUTES

SESSION 1 - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2004

1. Welcome, President's Remarks - Patricia Fremlin

The 48th Annual Meeting of the Retired Women Teachers of Ontario was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President, Patricia Fremlin, who welcomed all delegates and visitors. She entertained us all by reviewing Rules for Teachers of 1873. She then announced that there would be a few changes in the order of business as printed in the Convention program for the Wednesday/Thursday sessions, but they would be brought to everyone's attention as the agenda proceeded.

2. Announcements - Convention Co-ordinators

Sherri Stokes made several housekeeping announcements, highlighting the "Lost Trails" poster which identified members whose contact information was out of date and requested help in locating them.

3. Delegate Voting Information - Emily McBride, Program Co-ordinator

Emily reported that there were 143 delegates in attendance, with 120 from Branches. A simple majority for voting purpose would be 50% + 1 = 73. 66% would be 95, and 80% would be 115. Speakers to motions would have 2 minutes each. The Steering Committee, Timer and Scrutineers were introduced and their roles explained.

4. Minutes of 2003 Annual Meeting - Martha Summers, Recording Secretary Martha referred to the minutes of the 47th Annual Meeting in the Annual Report.

Motion #03/04 - 62

Move by Martha Summers, seconded by Freddie Beekhuis, that the minutes of the 47th Annual Meeting be approved as printed and circulated. CARRIED.

5. Reports

01 Financial Report, Presentation of 2004-5 Budget

- Johanna Vanderpol, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Executive Secretary-Treasurer explained the financial statement and budget printed in the Annual Report. She attributed the higher than usual total in the receipts column to returns from the 2003 Convention and the Encon profit sharing contribution. She explained the statement line by line, and pointed out the surplus of \$22,963.00 for the year 2003-2004. The proposed budget has been developed from the actual expenditures last year, with the addition of budget lines for identified committee expenses and the upcoming 50th Anniversary of RWTO..

02 Constitution and Resolutions - Carol Martin, Constitution and Resolutions Chair

As Chair of the Constitution and Resolutions Committee, Carol Martin highlighted her report as printed in the Annual Report. She announced a change in order of the agenda, indicating that Resolutions 1, 2, 3, 10, and 11 as printed in the Annual Report would be presented at this time. A time limit of one hour was allotted for this purpose, following which the agenda as printed would resume.

Juanita Rathbun, Parliamentarian, gave instructions for voting procedures, and pointed out the Rules of Order printed on the last page of the Annual Report. A 66% majority is required for any actions which would make a change in the Constitution.

From the Board of Directors

RESOLUTION #1 Moved by Carole Watson, seconded by Doris French

Be it resolved that the position of Membership Convenor be added to the list of appointees to the Board of Directors.

Motion 03/04-63

Moved by Isabel Ward, seconded by Karen Simmons, resolved that motion #1 be postponed until after the position of Membership Convenor has been included in the Constitution. DEFEATED.

Vote on the main Resolution **CARRIED.**

RESOLUTION # 2 Moved by Lee Beech, seconded by Joan Sisler-Wells

Be it resolved that the position of Communications Convenor be added to the list of appointees to the Board of Directors. CARRIED.

From the Constitution and Resolutions Committee **in consultation with York North and Mississauga Branches**

RESOLUTION # 3 Moved by Lee Beech, seconded by Judy Moulton

Be it resolved that Article IV- Organization be amended by the addition of a new section 4 Elections to read:-

Article IV- Organization (Handbook Page17)

4. Elections

(a) Election of Executive Officers

The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall submit to the delegates at the Annual Meeting the

names of nominees for executive office for the following positions

\$ Past President

\$ President

\$ First Vice President

\$ Second Vice President

\$ Program Coordinator

\$ Provincial Insurance Convenor

\$ Assistant Insurance Convenor

If more than one candidate is nominated for any of these positions then a secret ballot shall be held. Election of these candidates shall be by majority vote of the delegates present at the Annual Meeting.

(b) Selection or Election of Area Directors

(i) Each Area shall decide on the process for electing or selecting its own Area Director.

(ii) The method to be used in selecting or electing each Area Director must be in writing.

(iii) Copies of the process must be made available to the Provincial Executive and circulated to each of the Branch Presidents within each Area.

(iv) The name of each Area Director selected or elected by members in her own area must be forwarded to the Provincial Nominations Chair as soon as possible but before the end of each fiscal year.

(v) The chair of the Nominations Committee must submit the names of the nominees for the position of Area Director chosen by each Area for ratification by the delegates at the Annual Meeting.

(c) Appointments to the Board of Directors

The Chair of the Nominations Committee shall submit to the delegates at the Annual Meeting the names of the additional appointees to the Board of Directors for the following positions:-

(i) Archivist

(ii) Recording Secretary

(iii) Parliamentarian

(iv) Convention Convenor

(v) Honorary President

(vi) Executive Secretary-Treasurer

(d) Voting

All elected and appointed members of the Board of Directors with the exception of the Parliamentarian and the Executive –Secretary Treasurer are entitled to a vote.

A friendly Amendment was made to the Resolution:

That the following be added to 4.(c):

(vii) Membership Convenor

(viii) Communications Convenor CARRIED.

Vote on Resolution # 3 as amended. **CARRIED.**

From Mississauga Branch

RESOLUTION # 10

Be it resolved that a committee be struck to investigate the re-definition of the area boundaries of RWTO, said committee to include at least three members–at-large, and to file its final report at the Annual Meeting of 2006. CARRIED.

From Oakville Branch

RESOLUTION # 11

Be it resolved that a new area be formed that would include the following Branches known as LYDIA SNOW, MISSISSAUGA, OAKVILLE and PEEL NORTH. CARRIED.

5. Reports (continued)

.03 Nominations Report - Shirley Hoover, Past President

As Chair of the Nominations Committee, Shirley Hoover referred everyone to Page 31 of the Annual Report which presented the proposed Slate of Officers for 2004-2005. Amendments to the list of names, as a result of decisions previously made by the membership included:

Board of Directors

Director Area 5 - Linda Seath (in lieu of Joyce Foster)

Director Area 12 - Joyce Foster

Appointments

Membership Convenor - Barbara Bain

Communications Convenor - Martha Summers

Other Committees*

Goodwill - Sherri Stokes

Issues & Concerns - Carole Watson

*These positions are identified for Executive Members in Article VI of the Constitution.

Motion #03/04-64

Moved by Shirley Hoover, seconded by Freddie Beekhuis, be it moved that the Nominations Report for Officers (Executive and Board of Directors and Appointees) as presented and amended by the Nominations Committee be accepted for the year 2004 - 2005. CARRIED.

.04 Program Co-ordinator - Emily McBride

The Program Co-ordinator's Report is on Page 11 of the Annual Report. Emy indicated she had enjoyed her short time in this role, having taken over from Elsie Seddon, who was forced to resign for medical reasons. Area Directors' Reports follow this in the Annual Report.

.05 Policy and Procedures Committee - Emily McBride, Chair

Report in Annual Report, page 28. Emy highlighted the work of the committee in preparing the long-awaited Policy Handbook which will be distributed later this year.

.06 Membership Committee - Barbara Bain, Chair

This report is included as an insert to the Annual Report. Barbara briefly spoke of the mandate and work of the committee. She especially highlighted two Branches, Trenton and Orillia, for their exemplary work this year, and presented them with a "Feather Hat of Honour".

.07 Honorary Life Membership Committee - Judy Moulton, Chair

This report is included as an insert to the Annual Report. Judy highlighted three members who would be receiving the award this year: Roberta Drew of Muskoka Branch, Patricia Fremlin of Central Algoma Branch, and Carol Rannie of Ottawa-Carleton Branch. The awards will be presented at the Wednesday Banquet.

.08 Issues and Concerns Committee - Sylvia Kajiura and Lee Beech, Co-Convenors

This report is contained in the Annual Report, page 30. It is important that members identify their issues and concerns as topics for research and information.

.09 Archivist - Mary Jane Finn

As indicated in the report, page 31, the Memorial Service for 127 members will be held at 8:30 a.m. Thursday. The In Memoriam Book is on display at the Convention.

.10 Goodwill Report - Joy Patyk, Goodwill Convenor

The Goodwill Report is on page 30 of the Annual Report. Joy Patyk reported an enjoyable year as convenor, especially receiving notes back from "Over 90's" with whom she has been in contact.

The first session was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

SESSION 2 - THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2004

1. In Memoriam Service - Mary Jane Finn, Archivist

A very fitting Memorial Service using the theme "Hats Off to RWTO" was conducted by the Archivist,

with participation by Area Directors, to honour members who had passed away during the past year.

2. Opening Remarks - Patricia Fremlin, President

The second session was opened by Pat Fremlin with a reading of “A Poem for Senior Citizens”, a humorous interpretation of the need for pills.

3. Announcements - Sherri Stokes, Convention Co-ordinator

Sherri reminded all to complete their evaluation forms and deposit them in boxes provided.

4. Resolutions - Juanita Rathbun, Parliamentarian and Carol Martin, Committee Chair

Presentation and discussion of Resolutions continued from Wednesday session.

From the Board of Directors

RESOLUTION # 4 Moved by Joan Sisler-Wells, seconded by Judith Hood.

Be it resolved that Article VI-Duties of Executive Officers Section 2 be amended to read:-

Article VI- Duties of Executive Officers (Handbook Page 18)

2. Past President

The Past President shall:

(a) Chair the Nominations Committee.

(b) Advertise vacancies for Provincial Executive positions in the November Newsletter.

(c) Present the proposed slate of elected officers and appointees to the Board of Directors prior to being presented to the delegates at the Annual Meeting.

(d) Present the proposed slate of elected officers and appointees to the Board of Directors to the delegates at the Annual Meeting for election and ratification.

(e) Call three times for any further nominations from the floor.

(f) Hold an election by secret ballot at the Annual Meeting if more than one nomination is received for any one elected position. Each candidate will be given an equal opportunity to speak to the delegates before the vote is taken.

(g) Be a member of the Constitution and Resolutions Committee. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #5 Moved by Shirley Hoover, seconded by Gertrude MacCrimmon

Be it resolved that Article VIII- Duties and Structure of Provincial Committees section 2 be amended by substitution to read:-

Article VIII-Duties and Structure of Provincial Committees (Page 25)

Nominations Committee

- The Nominations Committee shall

(a) be chaired by the Past President and include two Area Directors in consultation with the current President.

(b) advertise vacancies for Provincial Executive in the November Provincial Newsletter

(c) receive nominations for any vacancies on the Provincial Executive before the date set by the

Board of Directors

- (d) prepare a proposed slate of officers to fill vacancies on the Provincial Executive
- (e) prepare a proposed slate of appointees to the Board of Directors. **CARRIED.**

RESOLUTION # 6 Moved by Emy McBride, seconded by Lee Beech

Be it resolved that Article X-Annual Meeting Sections 2, 4 and 5 be amended to read:

ARTICLE X-Annual meeting (Handbook Page 29)

2. The Annual Meeting shall:

- (a) receive reports of officers and committee convenors
- (b) approve the annual budget
- (c) elect the officers to the Provincial Executive
- (d) approve the appointments to the Board of Directors
- (e) consider resolutions
- (f) ratify the actions of the Executive and the Board of Directors
- (g) conduct other business

4. Amendments to the Constitution

(a) Amendments to the Constitution, submitted by the deadline as determined by the Board of Directors, shall* be made at the Annual Meeting by a 66% majority vote of the registered delegates.

*This was approved at the 2002 Annual Meeting

5. Voting Delegates:

Each Branch is entitled to delegates according to the following formula**

- Up to 50 members 1 delegate
- 51-100 members 2 delegates
- 101-150 members 3 delegates
- 151-200 members 4 delegates
- 201-250 members 5 delegates
- 251-300 members 6 delegates
- 301+ members 7 delegates

This change was approved at the 2003 Annual Meeting. **CARRIED.

From the Branches

From Hamilton-Wentworth Branch

RESOLUTION # 7 Moved by Sylvia Kajiura, seconded by Judy Taylor

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read:

Article III- Membership and Fees

2. Fees

3. (f) For members who retired with an annual teacher pension of \$10,000 or less regardless of the year of retirement, the fee shall be one half the regular fee.

Moved by Karen Simmons, seconded by Alba Falconi, that the words “on application to and approval by the Board of Directors” be inserted after the word “retirement” in the resolution.

Moved by Mary Kidd, seconded by Steph Hattie, that the question be put on the amendment.
CARRIED.

Vote on the motion to amend. **DEFEATED**

Vote on the **original resolution. DEFEATED**

RESOLUTION # 8 Moved by Sylvia Kajiura, seconded by Judy Taylor.

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended to read:

Article III-Membership and Fees

4.Associate Member

Any retired Educational Assistant is eligible to become an Associate Member of RWTO subject to the same fee structure as a Regular Member. DEFEATED.

RESOLUTION # 9 Moved by Sylvia Kajiura, seconded by Judy Taylor

Be it resolved that the procedure followed for the selection of Area Directors incorporate a vote of acceptance of each individual Area Director by members of that Area. DEFEATED.

From Burlington Branch

RESOLUTION # 12 Moved by Marg Steedman-Turek, seconded by Nancy Kumpf

Be it resolved that the Constitution be amended by the addition of a new category of membership to read:

Article III-Membership and Fees (Handbook Page15)

4. Fellowship Associate

(a) A Fellowship Associate is a member who is no longer able to attend meetings due to ill health, age or other concerns, but does not qualify as a Sustaining Member. She shall pay no fees.

WITHDRAWN.

From Niagara South Branch

RESOLUTION # 13 Moved by Margo Smith, seconded by Ruth Ferguson

Be it resolved that Article III Membership and Fees 3 (b) be amended by the addition of the following:

Sustaining Member

(a) the same

NEW

(b) A sustaining member is one who has become “shut in” due to physical impairments and is living

(i) in a Long Term Care Facility or

(ii) at home with help from Community Care Access resources

(c) formerly 3 (b) remains the same WITHDRAWN.

NEW RESOLUTION to replace 12 and 13, withdrawn above:

From joint Burlington/Niagara South Branches

RESOLUTION 14 Moved by Margo Smith, seconded by Nancy Kumpf

Be it resolved that Article III Membership and Fees 3(b) be amended as follows:

Sustaining Member

(a) the same

(b) is a member who is no longer able to attend meetings due to chronic ill health, physical impairment, mobility or age. She shall pay no membership fees.

Moved by Barbara Bain, seconded by Sharon Helps-Symington, that the resolution be amended by including at the end of (a) the word “or”, and following this by the wording of (b) in the resolution. CARRIED.

Vote on the motion as amended. CARRIED.

NEW RESOLUTIONS: (Note: Because Resolutions 15 and 16 are constitutional changes, and advance notice was not given, an 80% majority is required for the resolution to carry.)

RESOLUTION 15 Moved by Adele Muldoon, seconded by Isabel Ward

Be it resolved that Article VII of the constitution - Duties and Structure of Provincial Committee be amended to include the addition of a new sub-section 6 under Standing Committees:

Membership Committee, with the duties to be decided by the Board of Directors and presented to the Annual Meeting 2005 for inclusion in the constitution.

Ref. Page 24, 25, 26 of Handbook. CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 16 Moved by Adele Muldoon, seconded by Isabel Ward

Be it resolved that Article VII of the constitution - Duties and Structure of Provincial Committee be amended to include the addition of a new sub-section 6 under Standing Committees:

Communications Committee, with the duties to be decided by the Board of Directors and presented to the Annual Meeting 2005 for inclusion in the constitution.

Ref. Page 24, 25, 26 of Handbook CARRIED.

RESOLUTION 17 Moved by Carol Martin, seconded by Marg Steedman-Turek.

Be it resolved that Burlington Branch be included in the new Area 12.

Moved by Barbara Johnston, seconded by Diann Rigg, that the resolution be deferred until the Boundaries Committee makes its recommendations. DEFEATED.

Vote on original Resolution. **CARRIED.**

5. Reports (Continued from Wednesday)

.01 Insurance - Joan Sisler-Wells, Insurance Convenor

Joan thanked the Board, Branches her Assistant Convenor, Judith Hood, and Terry Kennedy of Encon for their assistance during her term. She introduced Terry who had a presentation to make. Terry cited statistics regarding the status of the insurance program, and was pleased to present a profit sharing cheque in the amount of \$20,263.00 to RWTO.

Judith Hood was introduced as the Insurance Convenor for 2004-2005.

6. Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report - Johanna Vanderpol

The report outlining the various duties of this position is printed on page 37 of the Annual Report. Membership statistics were highlighted, indicating growth in the organization.

Johanna explained the Auditor's Report printed in the Annual Report. The financial status of RWTO is healthy at the present time. The Auditor's Report gave RWTO the highest rating given in the accounting profession, stating that the "financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the program as at March 31, 2004..." A request was made from a Branch that the Auditor's letter be included with the report. It was confirmed that a copy of the letter will be sent to any Branch upon request.

It was pointed out that additions should be made to the Budget for 2004-2005 to cover costs for positions previously approved by the membership. \$1500.00 was added to Area Directors - Expenses for the additional Area Director and \$1500.00 was added for Communications Committee.

Motion 03/04-65

Moved by Lee Beech, seconded by Margaret Murdoch, that the budget for 2004-5 be approved as amended. CARRIED.

7. Motion 03/04-66

Moved by Mary Jane Finn, seconded by Margaret Murdoch, that decisions and actions of the Board for the year 2003-4 be ratified. CARRIED.

8. Motion 03/04-67

Moved by Eleanor Vargo, seconded by Joy Patyk, that all reports for the Annual Meeting be accepted. CARRIED.

9. Invitation to 2005 Convention

Members of Branches in Area 8, attired to highlight the theme “Bloom with 8”, presented a musical invitation to attend the 49th Annual Convention in Kingston, in June 2005.

10. Announcements

Final announcements regarding lunch arrangements were made, and all delegates and visitors were requested to turn in their name tag holders for use next year.

11. Adjournment

The 48th Annual Meeting was declared adjourned by Patricia Fremlin, President, at 11:25 a.m.