

RWTO/OERO 58th ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Travelodge Hotel, Ottawa, ON, June 4 and 5, 2014

SESSION 1 – JUNE 4, 2014

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks– President Anne Graham welcomed all in attendance, both delegates and members at large, alike.

2. Announcements –Convention Convenor Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison gave instructions and procedures for the afternoon tours.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion #AM-01

Moved by Clarice West-Hobbs, St. Catharines Branch, seconded by Maret Sadem-Thompson, York North Branch, the acceptance of the meeting agenda, with adjustments and additions, as announced by Anne Graham. *Carried*

4. Acceptance of the 2013 Annual General Meeting minutes

Motion #AM-02

Moved by Peggy Stock, seconded by Judy Drummond , the acceptance of the 2013 AGM minutes. *Carried*

5. Voting Information – Pat Depencier, Program Coordinator, gave the gathered delegates the necessary voting information and procedures. One hundred and forty-six voting delegates were present. A count of 66% (96 votes) would be necessary for constitutional amendments to pass and a count of 50 %, (73 votes) would be required for those dealing with policy changes only. Resolutions not published in the Annual Report, and that come from the floor would require a count of 80%. The Scrutineers and the Steering Committee were introduced.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting

At the 2013 AGM, Upper Canada East presented a resolution which sought to have all Over 90's memberships paid annually by the Provincial Office. This resolution was not passed but was deferred to the Board of Directors for further study by the Board in the 2013-2014 year.

Marilyn Emmett, Constitutions and Resolutions Chair reported on the Board's deliberations. After thorough review, it is the opinion of the Board that the current practice of payment of annual fees by Over 90s members should remains in place. No change is recommended.

7. Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report and Presentation of 2014-2015 Budget

Gloria Drake presented the 2014 Financial Report in detail. Each entry of this document was carefully reviewed. Gloria gave a comprehensive explanation of the Reserves and of how they are drawn upon to pay expenses until that point in the year when all the membership dues have been received. The financial surplus this year was greater than anticipated. Delegates were given a clear explanation of how this occurred.

Gloria Drake next thoroughly reviewed the information found in the Auditor's report. Our Auditor, Anthony Finucci has found that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of our organization as of March 31, 2014.

A full explanation of the proposed Budget for 2014-2015 followed. Both the Income and Expenses for this budget were reviewed in detail. Gloria Drake also showed how the budget would be affected if Resolution #2 is passed. The 2014-2015 is a deficit budget with an anticipated deficit of \$33, 454. G. Drake stated that questions would be entertained on Thursday morning after delegates had a chance to study the proposed budget.

Gloria Drake then reviewed the Expense Forms Procedures. The importance of submitting signed expense forms, with attached receipts and within 45 days, was stressed.

Motion #AM-03

Moved by Maret Sadem-Thompson, York North Branch, seconded by Anne Marie Stockwell, St. Catharines Branch, the acceptance of the Financial Report as presented by the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Carried

President Graham thanked Gloria Drake for her detailed presentation and for her professional expertise in all her duties.

8. Committee Reports (commencing today with the Constitution and Resolutions Report and the Nominations Report, and to continue tomorrow after the Memorial Service.)

- **Constitution and Resolutions Report- Marilyn Emmett**

Marilyn Emmett thanked the branches for all their work in preparing and submitting resolutions. She thanked the members of her committee and also thanked Gloria Drake for her careful and complete advice on the financial implications of resolutions. Each delegate has received a 'Financial Implications of Resolutions' document. Marilyn next referred the delegates to the Rules of Order and Meeting Procedures, as found on page 33 of the Annual Report.

9. Resolutions

Parliamentarian, Joy Patyk, assumed the chair for Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resolution #1

Motion # AM-04

Moved by Leslie Uttley, seconded by Mardie Panabaker

Be it resolved that:

Constitution - Article VIII, Duties and Structures of Provincial Committees, section 3 (a) be amended to include: **the Honorary President as a member of the Honorary Membership Committee. *Carried***

RESOLUTIONS FROM THE BRANCHES

Resolution #2 (from Cambridge and Mississauga Branches)

Motion #AM-05

Moved by Terry Hamilton, Cambridge Branch, seconded by Carol McConnell, Mississauga Branch

Be it resolved that Policy and Procedures - Article III, section 3 (b) Fee Rebates to Branches (i) be amended to read that the annual branch rebate per paid Provincial member shall be 35% of the membership fee, commencing with the 2014-2015 membership year. The rebate on the fifteen dollar membership fee shall remain at \$8.00. *Defeated*

Resolution #3 (from Cambridge and Mississauga Branches)

Motion # AM-06

Moved by Terry Hamilton, Cambridge Branch, seconded by Carol McConnell, Mississauga Branch

Be it resolved that Policy and Procedures Article III, section 3 (b) Fee Rebates to Branches (ii) be amended to read that the minimum branch rebate shall be \$200.00. *Carried*

Amendment to Resolution #3 (In accordance with Bourinot Rules of Order, the amendment was dealt with before returning to the main motion)

Motion #AM -07

Moved by Marilyn Bancsi, Coldwater Branch, seconded by Joan Brent, Brant Branch

Be it resolved that {Policy and Procedures Article III, section 3 (b) Fee Rebates to Branches (ii) be amended to read that the minimum branch rebate, for branches with 50 or fewer members shall be \$200.00. *Defeated*

Resolutions will continue on Thursday, June 5, 2014.

- **Nominations Report** - Leslie Uttley presented the Slate of Nominated Officers for the year 2014-2015. There were no new nominations from the floor.

Motion #AM-08

Moved by Leslie Uttley, seconded by Susan Armstrong, that the Nominations Report for the Proposed Slate of Officers for the Provincial Board 2014-2015 be accepted as presented. ***Carried***

Session 1 ended at 11:15 a.m.

Session 2- June 5, 2014

The session began with a beautiful Memorial Service to honour the memory of those 121 members who had passed away during the 2013-2014 year. This meaningful tribute was prepared and conducted by Lois Lockhart. Mary Jane Finn delivered the readings in French. Area Directors presented flowers as a symbol of remembrance for the contributions, accomplishments and friendship of these women, now passed.

After announcements and opening remarks by both President Graham and Convention Convenor Wilson-Marjerrison, Committee Reports were heard as follows:

- **Insurance Report-** Nancy Iannizzi referred delegates to the printed report in the Annual Report. Together with Assistant Insurance Convenor, Bertha Breen, she called on Terry Kennedy, our Insurance Broker.

Manulife Financial Report

Terry Kennedy presented the financial results for the Hospital and Home Care Plan for the period from April 1, 2013- March 31, 2014. The plan had experienced another successful year. The Profit Sharing cheque which Terry presented to President Anne Graham was in the amount of \$47, 027.36. Together with the monthly admin fee cheques, Manulife has contributed \$65, 591.44 to RWTO/OERO for 2013-2014. She noted that this year there has been a slight decrease in premiums while there has been an increase in claims. In order to encourage new membership in the plan, an Open Window Campaign will commence as of September 15, 2014. Together with Nancy Iannizzi and Bertha Breen, Terry introduced the campaign's theme, 'Don't Be Late!'

Terry was sincerely and heartily thanked by President Graham and all present for the great work that she does on our behalf.

Budget Approval for the 2014-2015 Budget

Gloria Drake noted slight adjustments to Budget entries for both the Manulife Admin fee and the Profit Sharing amounts. These changes are based on the updated numbers just presented by Terry Kennedy. Because of these new figures, the projected deficit budget will be \$35, 172.

Motion #AM-09

Moved by Astrida Jenkinson-Chalmers, Northumberland Branch, seconded by Sandie Bender, Hamilton Wentworth Branch, the acceptance of the 2014-2015 Budget as presented by Gloria Drake, Executive Secretary-Treasurer. *Carried*

Next, Parliamentarian Joy Patyk assumed the Chair to complete the Resolutions.

Resolution #4 (from Lydia Snow Branch)

Motion #AM-10

Moved by LeAnne Taylor, Lydia Snow Branch, seconded by Elizabeth Bailey, Lydia Snow Branch

Be it resolved that Constitution - Article 111, Membership and Fees, section 1 be amended to include the addition of: retired women Educational Assistants be eligible for membership in RWTO/OERO on the same basis as retired women teachers. *Deferred*

Motion #AM-11

Moved by Lynn Hitsman, York North Branch, seconded by Judy Anderson, Rendezvous Branch

To defer Resolution #4 to the Board of Directors. *Carried*

As a result of the above decision, a further motion from the floor was introduced.

Motion #AM-12

Moved by Lynn Hitsman, York North, seconded by Diana McKendry, Upper Canada East

That the Board create an Ad Hoc Committee to study the implications of extending the membership to other retired women in education and to report back to the 2015 AGM. *Carried*

Resolution #5 (from Northumberland South Durham Branch)

Be it resolved that Constitution - Article V, Duties of the Provincial Executive, section 1 (a) be amended to change the structure of the Executive meetings from a face to face meeting to a telephone conferencing call.

This resolution was removed from the table.

Resolution #6 (from York North Branch)

Motion #AM-13

Moved by Lynn Hitsman, York North Branch, seconded by Gerry Oldham, Durham North Branch,

Be it resolved that, in years when there is a surplus of more than \$1000.00 in the RWTO/OERO Budget, RWTO/OERO donate \$1000.00 to a charity in Ontario that supports women and/or children in need. Such charity to be determined by the executive. *Defeated*

Resolution #7

This is an additional RESOLUTION FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. It requires an 80% majority, since it had not been previously published.

Motion #AM-14

Moved by Marilyn Emmett, seconded by Pat Depencier,

Be it resolved that:

**Constitution – Article VII, Duties of Other Members of the Board of Directors,
1. Honorary President**

Be amended to include:

**(c) as Incoming Honorary President, serve as a member of the Steering Committee at the AGM
*Carried***

This completed the Resolutions portion of the Annual Meeting. Delegates were thanked by the Parliamentarian for their participation and input.

After a short break, the meeting resumed, with the Call to Convention 2015.

Our 59th Annual Convention will be held from June 2-4, 2015 at Stratford, ON. The venue will be the Arden Park Hotel. The dramatic, creative and musical talents of the Area 2 presenters were enthusiastically received by everyone present. 'Festival Fantastique' promises to be another memorable convention for all.

The remaining Committee Reports were briefly presented. Full reports are printed in the Annual Report Booklet.

- **Program Co-ordinator – Pat Depencier** referred delegates to her report on page 19. She thanked all Area Directors for their service, welcoming three incoming directors, Sharron Colter, Karen Rynard and Henedine Weiman, while saying good-bye to directors Donna Hemeon, Valma Mongeon and Susan Armstrong.
- **Communications - Mardie Panabaker** announced Branch Report Themes for all three upcoming Connections issues. They are September, - A Good Idea, December, - Caring and Sharing and March, -A Favourite Moment.
- **Membership Report - Phyllis Robson** reported that the Area Three Presidents' initiative to support smaller branches is in the investigation stage. She asked the small branches to think of what they liked/ needed/were concerned about, as small branches and how they best they could be supported from within RWTO/OERO. Branch Requests for pins will be filled at the September and May Combined Board meetings through the Area Directors.
- **Archivist – Lois Lockhart** thanked Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrisson for the addition of the beautiful graphics for the Memorial Service program. Lois is enthusiastic about organizing and storing our records. The next transfer to York University's Archives will occur in 2015.

- **Honorary Membership - Donna Hemeon** thanked her committee and once again, offered congratulations to the Honorary Membership inductees for 2014, namely, Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison and Anne Graham.
- **Issues and Concerns - Judy Drummond** reviewed the topics she had selected to write about in the 2013-2014 year, and invited members to send her subject ideas for future articles.
- **Goodwill - Dianne Rice** advised that our oldest member is from the Belleville branch. She is 111 years old. We have 7 centenarians within our membership. Dianne thanked Gloria for the outstanding job she does in keeping our database accurate and up to date and encouraged the branches to notify both Gloria and the Goodwill Convenor of address and status changes as they occur.
- **Policy and Procedures - Leslie Uttley** asked that members consider changes that may need to be reviewed and updated in Policy and Procedures. Potential changes should be brought to the attention of the Past President, who is the convenor for this committee.
- **Honorary President - Carol Bell** sincerely thanked the membership for the honour and privilege of having been able to serve such a unique organization. Her years as a member of the Executive and the Board are truly memorable life experiences.
- **President - Anne Graham** stated that her year as Provincial President has been full of rich experiences as she reflected on the past year. The opportunities she has been given to meet so many branch members, to share in branch activities and to see so many wonderful parts of our province are memories she will always treasure.

Motion #AM-15

Moved by Anne Marie Stockwell, St. Catharines, seconded by Sherril Mitchell, Brockville, to accept the Committee Reports 2014. **Carried**

President Anne Graham thanked all convenors and their committee members for the invaluable work each has done for RWTO/OERO.

Break and Hotel Check-out time 11:20 a.m.

Reassembling for Closing Luncheon 12:30 p.m.

Honorary President Carol Bell installed the 2014/2015 Officers.

Anne Graham was presented with the Provincial Past President's pin. She again thanked the organization for the many memories of this special year. This officially ended her year as President. All members present showed their appreciation of and thanks for President Graham's contributions this year, with a standing ovation.

Next, Incoming President Marilyn Emmett, from the St. Catharines Branch, was introduced by fellow branch member, and good friend, Honorary President Carol Bell. She shared highlights of Marilyn's life and career, focusing in particular on the many contributions that Marilyn has already made to RWTO/OERO. Marilyn was welcomed to the floor.

Marilyn spoke of the excitement and the enthusiasm she feels as she takes on the challenge of serving as Provincial President for 2014-2015. She shared her sense of pride in our organization as we move forward into our 59th year. The members responded with equal enthusiasm to her remarks.

Outgoing President Anne Graham made closing comments. Convention Convenor Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison thanked for the Ottawa-Carleton and Lanark Branch members for their hard work and commitment in creating and hosting this year's convention. In turn, Anne Graham thanked Convention Convenor 2014 Suzanne Wilson-Marjerrison for a 'Capital Convention'.

Motion #AM-16

Moved by Leslie Uttley that the 2014 Annual Meeting be adjourned.