

**Education Retirees Association of Ottawa
Executive Meeting Minutes
via Zoom
Date: Aug. 8, 2023**

Item		Decision/Action
Call to Order	10:03 AM	
Executive Members Present	President: Chris Borzecki Vice President: Vacant Secretary: Vikki Zulpo Treasurer: Horst Dannehl Registrar: Cheryl Cavell Social Committee Chair(s): Shelley McDonald ERAO Online Chair: Rick Chataway, House Convenor: Vacant Past President: Horst Dannehl Members at Large: Margaret Bryan, Stuart Fraser, Vacant, Vacant	
Approval of Agenda	Horst requested to add discussion of insurance to New Business Move to accept agenda: Cheryl Cavell, seconded, Shelley McDonald	Passed
Approval of Previous Minutes	Move to accept : Vikki Zulpo, seconded, Shelley McDonald	Passed
Vice President's report	N/A	
Secretary's Report	N/A	
Treasurer's report	\$5,413.88 is presently in our chequing account \$3,171.04 is our GIC Horst made the deposit of \$250 on his credit card for the To Hell with the Bell breakfast, and has yet to pay himself for that. Move to accept the Treasurer's report : Vikki Zulpo, seconded Cheryl Cavell	Passed
Registrar's Report	Cheryl reported that there have been 23 new contacts or new members since January, but only 2 since July. Cheryl cannot tell if the contacts are actually new members or only replying to an email as only Stuart can determine that. Move to accept: Vikki Zulpo, seconded, Horst Dannehl	Passed
ERAO Online Chair's report	Chris Borzecki spoke on behalf of Rick Chataway: John Harding has agreed to continue to monitor the ERAO Facebook page. Stuart will continue to be our webmaster, and send out our mass emails. Rick will continue to be in charge of setting up our Zoom presentations and the concomitant registrations. Move to accept report: Cheryl Cavell, seconded, Horst Dannehl	Rick and Chris will discuss methods for streamlining of the Zoom registration process. Passed

Social Committee Chair's report	<p>The Social committee met on July 19.</p> <p>They discussed the To Hell With the Bell breakfast. The committee was split on whether to try a new venue or stick with Cedarview Golf Course. They decided to check two other places and compare prices as well as what was offered. The Ale restaurant at Amberwood had a good price and it is a very pleasant spot. A bit further west, so not sure if this will affect our numbers, but the decision was made to try it out.</p> <p>They also discussed whether to to maintain the zoom presentations or return to Confed for in person events.</p> <p>Before Covid, a Pot Luck lunch would be held in October. The committee decided to try this again and see the response.</p> <p>The following topics will be covered on zoom presentations: a mystery book author, a PH.D. student to talk about bees, two different travel presentations, and a travel agent talking about cruises.</p> <p>Nancy will offer a walk and lunch.</p> <p>The social committee is discouraged with the lack of response to activities on offer; the Mill of Kintail outing had only 3 respondents and so was cancelled, and to date, there are only 7 signed up for the To Hell With the Bell breakfast. The committee will continue, however, to plan other events.</p> <p>The executive discussed the difference between ERAO and RTO, wondering if they have larger turnouts, if they have membership fees and what type of activities they provide.</p> <p>Move to accept report: Shelley McDonald, seconded, Cheryl Cavell</p>	<p>Passed</p>
House Convenor's Report	<p>N/A</p>	
Business arising from previous meeting	<p>a) Reaching out to new retirees: Cheryl spoke to the OCDSB, asking to be given a list of retirees names and again was denied.</p>	<p>Cheryl will contact Human Resources and ask if they would send out our flyer to pending retirees.</p> <p>She will contact the bargaining unit's president to get the names of the OSSTF & OCETFO reps for each school, and send our flyer to them.</p> <p>Chris will contact the Catholic Board's Communications dept. for similar information</p>

Business arising from previous meeting	b) Tribute: we have still not been able to formally thank Jan Hynes, and hope she will make it to the To Hell With the Bell. If she doesn't, Vikki suggested that, with her permission, we write an article about all that she did for OPERA and ERAO, along with a picture, and post it to the website and/or send out with a mass email.	Vikki will forward Jan's email address to Chris. Chris will contact Jan to ask if coming to breakfast
Business arising from previous meeting	<p>c) Alternative to Dues: Given that ERAO's expenses at this time run approximately \$2,000 annually (for honourariums to Zoom presenters and for our insurance for the room at Confederation) Chris suggested that given our bank account, we should hold off introducing fees for another year.</p> <p>d) Who responds to info.erao@gmail.com? This topic was tabled</p> <p>e) Registering a guest for a zoom presentation: it was noted that at a previous meeting we decided to allow a member who wishes a friend (non-member) to attend, that the member needs to give the guest's email address to Rick when they are registering for themselves. Vikki suggested that this information be added as a sentence to the ads so members are aware this is allowed, and how to do it. She pointed out that this might need to be revisited if fees are re-introduced.</p>	<p>The rest of the executive agreed.</p> <p>Chris will draft a sentence or two to this effect and give it to Stuart to add to the mass emails of future announcements for Zoom events.</p>
New Business	<p>Insurance: Horst informed us that it was time to renew our insurance for the classroom at Confederation H.S. as it is being used by the Quilting Club, and will be by the Book Club beginning in September. The renewal fee is \$1,392 which can be paid in full by Sept. 8th, or can be paid in 3 instalments which would then add approximately, an additional \$50.</p> <p>Motion by Cheryl Cavell: That ERAO pay the full fee for insurance by Sept. 8, 2023. Seconded by Vikki Zulpo.</p> <p>Audit: Horst, as Treasurer, requested another audit for the past year's books. At some time in the future, he will be handing the books off to a new Treasurer and wants to be sure that they are in order and easily understood by a new person. The executive agreed that an in-house audit was acceptable.</p>	<p>Passed</p> <p>Chris will be the second set of eyes & go over the Treasurer's books for the past year to ensure all is in order.</p>
Next Meeting	October 10, 2023 @ 10:00 AM, via Zoom	
Adjournment	10:55 AM	