

**Education Retirees Association of Ottawa (ERAO)**  
**Executive Meeting Minutes**  
**Via Zoom**  
**Date: December 6, 2022. 10:00 AM**

Item		Decision/Action
<b>Call to Order</b>	10:07 am	
<b>Executive Members Present</b>	President: Chris Borzecki Past President: Horst Dannehl Treasurer: Horst Dannehl Secretary: Vikki Zulpo Social Committee: Shelley McDonald Registrar: <del>Cheryl Cavell</del> , regrets House Convenor: Vacant ERAO Online: John Harding/Rick Chataway Members at Large: Margaret Bryan Robin Dunbar Stuart Fraser	
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	Addition to New Business to discuss possible alternatives to membership dues. Move discussion of Tributes from New Business to Business arising from previous meeting.  Motion to approve the agenda by Vikki Zulpo. Seconded by Rich Chataway	Passed
<b>Approval of Previous Minutes</b>	Minutes from Oct. 4/22 were reviewed. Motion to approve, Vikki Zulpo Seconded, Margaret Bryan	Passed
<b>Secretary's Report</b>	No report	
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	As of December 5th, \$4,711.69 is in our bank account. This includes deposits for the Christmas dinner. The cheque to Algonquin for the Christmas luncheon has not yet been cashed. When it is, the balance will be \$3,513.04. Our GIC's are \$3,254.94 and \$3,081.67  The luncheon showed a profit of approximately \$1.00. We were charged for 30 plates even though 2 could not make it. One member was reimbursed, the other member declined to accept reimbursement.  Motion to approve Treasurer's report by Horst Dannehl Seconded by Shelley McDonald	Passed

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<b>Social Committee Report</b>	<p>Shelley reported: I think our members are getting a bit tired of authors, so we need to look for some variety. Unfortunately, there seems to be a lot of them and their presentations fit the zoom format quite well.</p> <p>Michael Runtz , the photographer had 24 people attend, whereas Mary Jane Maffini (the last author) had 8.</p> <p>The lunch at the Ottawa Sports club was good, around 20 people attended. This restaurant offers fire pits in the winter so we plan to go back. We've never done anything like that before.</p> <p>The Christmas lunch had 30 register and 28 attended. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. There were some new faces too, which was good.</p> <p>Right now we are starting to plan for the winter, trying to find some new topics to offer.</p> <p>Stuart commented, and discussion followed regarding recognition (or lack thereof) for e-transfers that members send to Horst. Not all banking institutions automatically send notification to the payers that their e-transfers have been received, leaving some members wondering if their payment has been received by ERAO for an event. Later in the meeting, Stuart suggestion investigating the use of Event Brite or Brown Paper Tickets which do keep track and notify people when their payments have been received.</p> <p>Motion to approve, Shelley McDonald Seconded by Vikki Zulpo</p>	<p>Shelley will discuss with Horst the most efficient way to notify people that their payments for activities have been received.</p> <p>Passed</p>
<b>ERAO Online Report</b>	<p>John reported that everything is working smoothly, especially the website which is in Stuart's capable hands. The Facebook page unfortunately still experiences glitches such as bereavements disappearing then reappearing days later and pictures that members post not loading.</p> <p>Stuart suggested that he could easily post bereavements and photos on the website.</p> <p>Motion to approve the ERAO Online report by John Harding Seconded by Margaret Bryan</p>	<p>John and Stuart will pursue the details involved to post bereavements and photos from members on the website.</p> <p>Passed</p>
<b>Registrar's Report</b>	<p>Not available as Cheryl was working. Stuart advised that he had received one new member from Cheryl recently. He understood that there may still be a few problems with people using the new application for membership form. Stuart also said that there are 448 members who receive emails from Mail Chimp, and that there is a good working system linking Mail Chimp to the website and to Facebook, with links in each back to the other formats. All are working smoothly.</p>	
<b>House Convenor Report</b>	<p>N/A</p>	

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<b>Business arising from previous meeting</b>	<p>a) Constitution Update: The draft Constitution with suggested amendments was presented by the sub-committee.</p> <p>b) Reaching out to new retirees</p> <p>c) Tribute for long-term volunteers Margaret commented that given our demographic, plaques, trophies etc would not be appropriate and that perhaps something consumable (gift certificates for example) would be a better choice.</p>	<p>Executive members have until Jan. 1/23 to review and make comments and/or suggestions and/or changes (highlight in red). The committee will reassess and present the next draft at our Feb. meeting for approval.</p> <p>Cheryl will continue to investigate who she must contact</p> <p>Rick will continue to investigate and defers his report to the next meeting</p>
<b>New Business</b>	<p>Possible alternatives to membership dues: John brought forward the possible need to find some alternative method to charging membership dues in the future. Our present expenses are approximately \$2,700 annually. We are presently well funded, however eventually we will need to find ways to generate revenue. Charging fees to 448 members would possibly cause our membership to drop drastically and would be a massive headache to manage, especially as we have many events via Zoom, and do have a Facebook page. Would we need to “police” and/or cut off people who haven’t paid from watching a Zoom presentation, or remove them from Facebook? 50/50 draws at live functions, an auction were suggested.</p> <p>Motion to strike a sub-committee to investigate ways that ERAO can sustain itself financially in the future by John Harding. Seconded by Shelley McDonald</p>	<p>Robyn, John, and Rick volunteered to form the sub-committee.</p>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	February 7, 2023 at 10:00 AM	
<b>Adjournment</b>	Motion to adjourn by Vikki Zulpo	11:14