

# **MINUTES: Executive Meeting**

## **Tuesday, May 11, 2010**

### **1. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by Lois Kirkup at 12:05 p.m.

In attendance: Randall Denley, Terry Garner, Gord Holder, Lois Kirkup, Jacquie Miller, Julie Oliver, Joanne Schnurr, Tony Cote.

Absent: Debbie Cole, Blair Crawford, Jeff Parks, David Reevely, Andrea Sirman, Sam Chalati, DLR.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

M/ by Terry Garner to approve agenda. S/ by Gord Holder. CARRIED.

### **3. Secretary's Report**

(a) Good Standing Report: All current members in good standing.

(b) Adoption of Minutes:

M/ by Julie Oliver to adopt the April 13, 2010 Minutes. S/ by Terry Garner. CARRIED.

(c) Correspondence: ODLC, OFL.

(d) Congratulations and Condolences:

·Death of brother of Jim Scheer (salary continuance, Citizen/Editorial) reported.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

(a) Financial Report: Treasurer Debbie Cole is away on training today and included a written report for the meeting. Financial statements attached are for the period ending April 30, 2010.

### **5. Unit Reports**

#### **a) CTV Ottawa:**

(a) Posting grievance update: Unit Chair Joanne Schnurr reported they are still discussing grievance re non-posting of chief anchor position with management. Many unit members have expressed frustration with perceived lack of gains from grievance process. Resolution of grievance depends on addressing all concerns of unit members. No more meetings scheduled at this point.

Also discussed the posting of a vacancy created by the upcoming retirement of a full-time member.

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A representative of another union representing technical employees of CTV Ottawa and those of A Channel, who are in separate local, was in the building where both stations are now based, and there has been chatter about consolidation of those two locals. Consensus of executive is to keep eyes and ears open.

**b) DLR International**

(a) Bargaining update: New collective agreement reached, with copy of Memorandum of Agreement attached. It's a three-year deal effective Nov. 18, 2009 - Nov. 17, 2012; no salary increases until year 3 - 1%.

**c) Delta Reprographics:** No report.

**d) Ottawa Citizen**

(a) Unit - Canwest update: Following supervised bid process, winning bid has been determined to be that with Paul Godfrey as the public face and John Paton as a key financial figure. Court hearing to approve winning bid was scheduled for May 17.

If approved, deal should close in mid-July. Paton is involved with a collection of newspapers in the northeastern United States, with concentration on digital and multimedia operations and a professed belief in local newspapers and local content. Godfrey has expressed intention to improve company's return on investment in Internet operations.

ONG distributed information memo to Citizen unit members on morning of May 11 with more extensive information sheet to follow.

ONG president Lois Kirkup participated in conference call of CWA/SCA Canada's Canwest caucus on May 10. Consensus is that Locals want to stress local content for the newspapers, and we have requested a meeting with Godfrey as soon as possible after the May 17 court hearing.

CWA/SCA Canada director Arnold Amber talked to Canwest official in Winnipeg.

A reference in a company email that seemed to cast doubt on the status of some part-time employees was deemed to be badly worded and was not to be taken seriously.

ONG has filed a grievance regarding end of payments to two members on salary continuance, citing the severance clause in the collective agreement. CWA/SCA Canada has obtained right to represent these two members in Canwest's CCAA process, but grievance has also been filed in bid to best protect their rights.

Another CWA/SCA Canada local in Montreal is bargaining with Canwest, and the Victoria/Vancouver Island local will start bargaining later in 2010. How those discussions go will provide indication of company's outlook on labour relations. Victoria/Vancouver Island local has filed several grievances alleging violations of its collective agreement with the Times-Colonist.

After discussion, ONG executive agreed by consensus to send letter to Citizen

publisher Jim Orban to request that he meet with Guild representatives.

6. **Arbitrations**  
No report.

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7. **Committees**

- (a) Personnel
- (b) Communications
- (c) Health & Safety
- (d) Grievance
- (e) Guild Awareness / Mobilization
- (f) Finance
- (g) Organizing
- (h) Elections
- (i) Bylaws

8. **Internal Guild**

(a) ONG Website: Andrea Sirman still on medical leave. No update.

(b) Canwest Caucus: see Citizen report.

(c) Report from CWA/SCA Canada 2010 NRC meeting - April 23-25, Ottawa, ON  
Lois Kirkup reported that it was a long, but very productive meeting. A seminar by Francois Legault of Health Canada on mental health in the workplace was quite good. Executive discussed idea of conducting survey of ONG members, perhaps as a Special Project. Another possibility was looking into something like the Labour Assistance Program of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Federation. Erin Cauchi, president of Canadian University Press, made presentation about what young people want out of their unions, including training. CWA/SCA Canada representatives are talking about creating some kind of "next generation" meeting of members/delegates. ONG executive discussed idea of creating an information package, similar to that given to new members, to students who are in our workplaces.

(d) TNG Sector Conference, July 23-24, 2010, Washington, DC. Resolutions and Credentials deadline is July 8.

(e) CWA Convention, July 26-27, 2010, Washington, DC. CWA Ready for the Future Resolution attached.

(f) Former ONG member and executive member Tony Cote made presentation about the CWA/SCA Canada retiree chapter. About 50-60 members have returned applications nationally, including a handful of former ONG members. Costs of the chapter are being paid by CWA/SCA Canada. One of the goals of the group is to have retiree representation on local executives, partly because the issue has come to the fore during discussions about pension situations of Canwest newspapers.

Tony Cote proposed creating a retiree position on the ONG executive. From discussion, a consensus develops that it would require a bylaw change, and the change must be in accordance with provisions of the TNG Sector and CWA constitutions.

Matter referred to recreated bylaw committee (See below)



Executive also discussed creating information package for members who are about to retire. No action taken at this time.

Bylaws committee recreated: Lois Kirkup, Gord Holder, Terry Garner and Debbie Cole from ONG executive, with Tony Cote as observer. Meeting to be set.

9. **Outside Issues**

a. CLC National Pension Canvass (information attached). Guild will request copies of CLC pension campaign material be sent to the ONG office for redistribution to ONG members.

10. **Other Business**

11. **Lost Time Notification:** Lost time for Terry Garner, Lois Kirkup, Jacquie Miller, Julie Oliver, Joanne Schnurr.

12. **Upcoming Meetings:**

·Next Executive Committee meeting - **Tuesday, June 8, 2010**, 12 noon, Guild office  
·Next General Membership meeting - **Wednesday, June 16, 2010**, 12 noon, Ottawa Citizen Conference Centre  
·Summer meeting: we will cancel the July 13 meeting and hold an August meeting – **Tuesday, August 10, 2010.**

13. **Adjournment**

M/ by Terry Garner to adjourn at 1:30 p.m. S/ by Joanne Schnurr. CARRIED.