



**OTTAWA NEWSPAPER GUILD**  
Unit 7B - 1050 Baxter Rd., Ottawa, ON, K2C 3P1  
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## **MINUTES: Executive Meeting Tuesday, November 19, 2013**

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

Meeting called to order by Debbie Cole at 12:04 p.m.

In attendance: Peter Bennet, Rob Bostelaar, Debbie Cole, Tony Cote, Gord Holder, Lois Kirkup, Joanne Laucius, Jeff Parks, Jonathan Rotondo.

Absent: Julie Oliver, DLR rep.

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

M/ by Gord Holder to approve agenda. S/ by Lois Kirkup. CARRIED.

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

(a) Executive Committee - Good Standing Report. All current members in good standing.

(b) Adoption of Minutes: M/ by Gord Holder to adopt the October 15, 2013 Minutes. S/ by Peter Bennet. CARRIED.

(c) Correspondence: Thank-you from Parkinson Society Ottawa for September donation in memory of father-in-law of Deborah Walsh (Citizen/RS&S). Memo from Martin O'Hanlon, director of CWA/SCA Canada, describing a significant arbitration victory in New Brunswick, doubling the size of the small Saint John local. Memo from Ottawa and District Labour Council detailing method of donating funds for relief efforts in Philippines through OXFAM. Another ODLC memo detailed the Health & Safety Activist Dinner on Dec. 2. Notice from Bernie Lunzer, president of TNG Sector, saying "general approval" of his plan to appoint a staff member to perform duties of secretary-treasurer Carol Rothman, who was soon retiring, had been given. Secretary Gord Holder said he would follow up with TNG Sector Executive Committee members at a CWA/SCA Canada meeting on Nov. 23.

(d) Congratulations and Condolences:

- Babies R Us Gift cards for John (CTV Ottawa) and Terri-Lynn Hua - twin boys, Hudson Alexander and Parker Benjamin. (Also checking memorial donation info concerning John Hua's father.)
- Advised of death of relative of another CTV Ottawa member.

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

(a) Financial Report: (attachment) Treasurer Peter Bennet reported that a deficit of \$1,255 had been recorded in the first month of the new fiscal year. This was in line with projections in the budget. Peter also noted that the Local still had General Fund

reserves of \$102,000, built up in previous years. In the Defence Fund, overall market conditions helped boost the value of the investments by \$17,000 in October. Most Citizen Unit bargaining expenses were included in this report, with about \$3,000 in October, though printing of contracts remained. Bargaining was about to begin at CTV Ottawa Unit.

## 5. **Unit Reports**

**a) CTV Ottawa:** Co-Chair Jonathan Rotondo said company had finally hired someone to fill the long-vacant late-night anchor position. The now full-time member had been a part-time employee in the Unit. Another full-time member left the company. That left a vacancy on the weekend, so the company had hired a sports anchor-reporter to start in December 2013. Several backups for sports anchor duties were being trained as interim replacements, with these new members to be part-time employees. Another vacant reporting position remained vacant.

CWA/SCA Canada staff rep Dave Wilson had submitted a request to start bargaining as soon as possible, but the company responded that it's lead bargainer was out of town. Still no date set yet, though the current agreement was to expire on Dec. 31. Company still does not have a head of human resources department.

**b) DLR International:** No report.

**c) Delta Reprographics:** Dues owed by the company since the end of June 2013 had not been received. M/ by Gord Holder. S/ by Lois Kirkup. That ONG write off the uncollectible dues owing. CARRIED.

### **d) Ottawa Citizen**

(a) Contract Bargaining/Conciliation; Nov. 4, 2013 Ratification vote:

A new collective agreement had been ratified by Unit members. The bargaining committee members were to hold a post mortem meeting to discuss the process with a view to better preparing the Unit for the next round of bargaining.

(b) Legacy Vacation Leave Bank (LVL) Letter of Agreement in new contract: A Citizen human resources department staffer had sent a confusing letter to Unit members with what the ONG believed to be incorrect numbers. ONG President Debbie Cole and Unit Chair Lois Kirkup were to meet with HR representatives. The goal was to cause the production of a new, improved letter to members. A quick advisory sent to members after the original letter was described as a valuable move because it made members aware that the situation was being closely monitored.

(c) Postings: A number of newsroom positions posted earlier in the year by Citizen management had not yet been filled. The issue was to be added to the agenda for the meeting Debbie Cole and Lois Kirkup were to have with Citizen HR.

6. **Arbitrations**

7. **Committees**

(a) Personnel: Committee members met before the Nov. 19 executive meeting. A follow-up meeting might be required.

(b) Communications

(c) Health & Safety

(d) Grievance

(e) Guild Awareness / Mobilization

i. Christmas Radio Campaign -

ii. Guild Christmas Party - A memo from CWA/SCA Canada director Martin O'Hanlon had cited the importance of using social events as a mobilization program. Following discussion, consensus was that the ONG would hold a Christmas party on the afternoon of Dec. 18, following the general membership meeting scheduled for that day at the Citizen building. A separate event would be held for CTV Ottawa members. M/ by Lois Kirkup. S/ by Joanne Laucius. To establish a budget of \$1,250 for the Citizen event and \$500 for the CTV Ottawa event, plus possible lost time for executive members. CARRIED.

(f) Finance

(g) Organizing

(h) Elections

(i) Bylaws

(j) Retirees - Report from CWA/SCA Canada Retirees Conference: Retiree Member-at-Large Tony Cote reported that it was a wonderful conference, with 18 participants from across Canada. Set of bylaws was created and slate of executive officers was elected. Annual membership fee set at \$25. Gerry Jones was elected president. Tony Cote and former ONG member Rosemary Knes were elected as executive members at large. Social media initiatives such as Facebook page had been launched. M/ by Tony Cote. S/ by Lois Kirkup. That ONG pay first-year dues of any new retiree 50 years of age and over and that the local provide information on new retirees to the national chapter. CARRIED.

8. **Internal Guild**

(a) CWA/SCA Canada 2014 National Representative Council meeting, April 25-27, 2014, Vancouver, BC

(b) TNG Secretary-Treasurer: See Correspondence report above. Gord Holder to follow up with TNG Sector executive members at CWA/SCA Canada meeting on the weekend.

9. **Outside Issues**

(a) ONG Lease: To be discussed at CWA/SCA Canada executive meeting on the weekend.

(b) CWA/SCA Canada Mentorship Program Event: Secretary Gord Holder reported that he had been asked by Katherine Lapointe of CUP/CWA to organize another seminar for CUP members working for The Fulcrum student newspaper at the University of Ottawa. The event was scheduled for the afternoon of Nov. 28.

M/ by Gord Holder. S/ by Lois Kirkup. To set a \$200 budget for the event. CARRIED.

10. **Other Business**

11. **Lost Time Notification:** Lost time for Rob Bostelaar, Debbie Cole, Gord Holder, Lois Kirkup, Joanne Laucius, Jeff Parks, Jonathan Rotondo.

12. **Upcoming Meetings:**

\* Next Executive Committee meeting is **Tuesday, December 17, 2013, 2 p.m.**, in the Guild office.

\* Next General Membership meeting is **Wednesday, December 18, 2013, 12 noon**, in the Ottawa Citizen Conference Centre. Christmas drop-in reception will follow in the Conference Centre for members and retirees until 4:00 p.m.

13. **Adjournment**

M/ by Joanne Laucius to adjourn at 1:20 p.m. S/ by Peter Bennet. CARRIED.