



OTTAWA NEWSPAPER GUILD
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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, December 18, 2013

1. Membership meeting called to order by Debbie Cole at 12:10 p.m.
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
M/ by Lionel Fortin to approve the agenda. S/ by Lois Kirkup. CARRIED.
3. **Adoption of Minutes**
M/ by Gord Holder to adopt the Minutes of September 25, 2013 General Membership meeting. S/ by Joanne Laucius. CARRIED.
4. **President's Report**
 - (a) Executive activity since last general meeting: President Debbie Cole reported that much of the executive activity in 2013 had revolved around bargaining with the Citizen Unit. A few weeks after the new agreement was ratified, the Citizen announced the layoff of 10 part-time members, two in building services and eight in RS&S. A slightly enhanced buyout has been offered, with three weeks for each year of service, but it came with significant restrictions and potential clawbacks of buyout payments in the event affected members obtained new employment elsewhere. All affected members had been talked to by ONG representatives. Debbie Cole was to consult legal counsel about the details of the proposal. Bargaining committee members had met recently to conduct a post mortem on the recent round of negotiations. Executive Member-at-Large Rob Bostelaar was to prepare report on that meeting.
 - (b) TNG 25-Year Pins:
 - Doug Menary, Citizen/Editorial
 - Randi Morelli, Citizen/Editorial
 - Anita Murray, Citizen/Editorial
 - Brenda Zalewski, Citizen/Financial Services
5. **Financial Report**
 - (a) Update: (attachment) Treasurer Peter Bennet said budget had predicted \$10,000 deficit for 2012-13, but careful attention paid to expenses meant that the deficit ended up being \$5,383.

- (b) Audit Report - Financial Statements 2012-2013: The value of the investments in the Defence Fund remained at about \$1.6 million, the same as a year earlier. The General Fund deficit turned out to be \$5,383. No red flags had been raised by the accounting firm that had audited the financial statements.
M/ by Peter Bennet. S/ by Lois Kirkup. To have the final version of the audited financial statements prepared by Bouris Wilson. CARRIED.
- (c) Executive Honoraria for 2014: Budgeted for \$6,500 for the 2013-14 fiscal year. No changes in amounts: \$2,000 for President; \$1,500 for Treasurer; \$600 for Secretary, Vice-President and Unit Chairs; \$300 for Members-at-Large and DLR Unit Chair. M/ by Peter Bennet. S/ by Paula McCooley. To approve honoraria amounts for 2014. CARRIED.
6. **Unit Reports**
- (a) CTV Ottawa: The collective agreement was scheduled to expire at the end of December 2013. Unit members had elected a bargaining committee, and what was expected to be a tough round of bargaining was likely to commence in late January.
- (b) DLR International: No report.
- (c) Ottawa Citizen: See President's report.
7. **New Business**
- (a) Elections Committee & (b) Executive Elections: 2 vacant Member-at-Large positions - No action.
- (c) Special Projects for 2013 and 2014
- i) M/ by Lois Kirkup. S/ by Lionel Fortin. That the ONG create a special project for 2013 to promote Guild awareness and member mobilization by purchasing 200 fleece scarves with the ONG logo from Cavan Advertising at a price of \$23.50 each, plus tax and shipping. CARRIED.
- ii) M/ by Lois Kirkup. S/ by Robert Bostelaar. That the ONG create a special project for 2014 to improve communication and mobilization for ONG and its members by hiring retiree member Tony Cote for a maximum of 15 hours per week at \$25 per hour to create, maintain and improve the local's website, Facebook page, Twitter feed and e-newsletter. This project was to be re-assessed at the end of 2014. CARRIED.
8. Citizen Unit Meeting - No separate unit meeting held.
9. CTV Ottawa Unit Meeting - No separate unit meeting held.
10. **Adjournment**
M/ by Paula McCooley. S/ by Joanne Laucius. Meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m. CARRIED.