

ADRP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday 2021-02-16 – Approved Minutes (BM 16mar21)
Via ZOOM

Present: Heather Schellinck (Chair), David McNeil, Marilyn Klein, Oriel MacLennan, Grace Paterson, Randy Barkhouse, Marek Kujath, David Tindall, Ed Leach, Peter Wallace, Don Clairmont, Nancy Pitts, David Mercer.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda as circulated was adopted (Klein/MacLennan) with the understanding that certain items would come up under “Matters Arising from the Minutes” and “Any Other Business”

2. Minutes of Board Meeting of January 12, 2021

A. Approval: With a few corrections, the Minutes were approved on a MOTION by MacLennan/Wallace.

B. Matters Arising. The status of the Contingency Fund was brought up after the motion that was passed at the last General Meeting. The draft minutes of the last AGM (Nov. 17th) read as follows:

Three options for dealing with the surplus, which stands at \$25,100.24, were presented:

- 1) Allocate all of the surplus to the Contingency Fund to assist the DFA in advocating (i.e., legal fees) for the retention of stacked pensions and the two-fund (pensioner and retiree) system;
- 2) Allocate \$15,000 to the Bursary Fund and the balance to the Contingency Fund; and
- 3) Allocate all of the surplus to a fund for members in need.

Option #1 CARRIED (count: 18 for option #1, 7 for option #2, and 4 for option #3).

It was generally agreed that the subject of what to do with the surplus would be discussed at the March meeting.

3. President’s Report

Heather noted that it was approximately one year ago that we were shut down with the pandemic. She reminded Board members that details related to the AGM in April (to be held via ZOOM) should be discussed at our March meeting.

She then summarized what some of the Board members have been doing over the last month. Ed Leach has been busy making arrangements to update the signing authority with the bank and setting up both an ADRP credit card and e-transfer option for those paying ADRP dues. Marilyn was busy getting the January 2021 ADRP *Newsletter* ready for publication, and it appeared at the beginning of February. David McNeil and Stewart Cameron have been training to assume the webmaster role. Nancy Pitts will take over the reporting on the Seniors College (SCANS) since she currently sits on its curriculum committee.

Heather reported that she has been working on the possibility of having a speaker address ADRP members on the subject of estate planning. She has spoken to Paula Wedge who gave a SCANS lecture on the subject, which was very well attended. Heather also said that she has been receiving several requests for information, many of which she passes on the relevant person (e.g., benefits – Peter; pensions – Randy).

It was generally agreed that Heather would go ahead and meet with the President (by ZOOM if necessary). She felt that it would be best if Peter, Ed and Randy joined her.

Heather raised the possibility of making Paul Huber an honorary ADRP member. Paul's long-standing and important contributions to the establishment of and improvements to the Dalhousie pension were noted by Randy. Many people did reap and continue to reap the monetary benefits of Paul Huber's work. Randy commented that as far as he knew designating honorary members was at the discretion of the Board (two-thirds majority necessary). Heather said that she would circulate a statement of nomination to the Board.

Heather then briefly described the selection criteria for a contribution award made by CURAC. It was MOVED (Tindall/McNeil) that Randy Barkhouse be nominated for the CURAC Tribute Award. The MOTION passed unanimously (Randy Barkhouse abstaining).

4. Treasurer's Report

ADRP Treasurer's Ed Leach presented his report. There has not been much change in the balances of ADRP's various accounts.

As of January 31ST, 2021

CUA Chequing Account. The balance in the CUA Chequing Account as of January 31st is \$9,685.34

Savings Account. Balance is \$81.46.

Certificate #	Deposit	Mature	Interest	Principal	Accrued %	Closing Val.
76364-40-3	02/03/2020	08/03/2022	2.250%	10,441.95	233.66	10,675.61
76364-41-3	02/03/2020	08/03/2022	2.250%	11,590.56	259.36	11,849.92
76364-42-3	12/19/2020	12/19/2022	.800%	20,467.14	19.29	20,486.43
76364-43-3	12/02/2019	06/02/2022	1.950%	10,195.53	32.68	10,228.21
				<u>52,695.18</u>	<u>544.99</u>	<u>53,240.17</u>

Dalhousie Account: Balance unchanged at \$2,999.16

Comments:

1. Direct deposit for individual dues has been set up, and the first one was received from Virginia Lee on February 15th;
2. No deposits for dues in November (\$1,107.22), December (\$1,113.86) or January (\$1,117.18) – Ed has reached out to Susan Whitman (who has worked diligently on this problem); an audit has determined that these transfers cannot be made without special permission;
3. The paperwork has been filed to support a credit card with a \$1,000 limit and should be in hand by the end of the month;
4. The Certificate that came due was renewed for a two-year period ending December 19, 2022 @ .80% interest [at this point in the meeting a chorus of ironic cheers went up!];
5. Appointment of an auditor – Grace and Ed will set up a date to meet;
6. Heather will stop into the Mumford Road branch of CUA and be authorized as a signing officer.

Ed Leach then outlined how he contacted Barb Adams (MLA) who provided him with the Vaccine Policy document which was circulated. Ed has known Barb for a number of years and believes she could present the province's policy in a non-partisan manner to ADRP members. Grace commented that she had worked with Barb Adams as well and thought that the idea of trying to inform the ADRP membership about the vaccine policy was a good idea since it got people thinking about health policy. The problematic aspect of having only one political party representative address the membership was brought up. However, the desirability of having three speakers representing the three major

parties was quickly rejected. Finally, the possibility of getting a speaker with no political affiliation was considered, and, while recognizing that most speakers did represent political or corporate interests, it was generally agreed to proceed in this direction.

Ed Leach shared two insurance quotes. One pertained to general liability (e.g., accident at an ADRP event). It was \$570. The other related to “directors” insurance. It was for \$1,605. The total of the two: \$2,175. It was agreed that these quotes would be circulated, and a decision taken at the next Board meeting.

5) Committee Reports:

A. Benefits

Peter had little to report. The Benefits Advisory Committee is planning to meet on Feb. 22nd.

B. Communications

i. Webmaster

David reported that progress was being made with the website committee (which includes himself, Stewart Cameron and Phil O’Hara); the committee meets weekly by ZOOM and performs individual tasks on top of that. Phil has been very helpful even when he hasn’t felt very well. All of the routine maintenance issues are being handled, but there are more complicated matters having to do with transferring authority that still have to be completed. David also said that he has received no complaints.

ii. Newsletter

After hearing a couple of the questions that had been received after the last *Newsletter* went out, Marilyn suggested that a FAQ section might be useful. The deadline for the next *Newsletter* is April 13th. She mentioned that she is scheduled to have cataract surgery and that this experience itself might be a good *Newsletter* topic. David McNeil said that he planned to contribute something on the subject of seniors and hearing loss. Don Clairmont then described his acute hearing problems, which have prevented him from contributing to the discussion as much as he would like. He has succeeded in overcoming the situation in the past and plans to do so again with the latest technology (e.g., ZOOM speaker-view).

C. Membership

There are approximately 721 current members. One of our oldest members, Leon Kind, Professor of Immunology and Microbiology has died. Heather commented that she has begun to send e-mails to those members paying by cheque, hopefully most will pay by e-transfer. Approximately 250 members are now subscribed to our website. Heather also sent an e-mail to the remaining 400 indicating that January *Newsletter* was available. Physical *Newsletters* will be sent to the few members who do not use e-mail.

Six people joined ADRP in January. She also reported that she has now received all of the physical membership applications that had been caught up in the regular mail at the university.

Nancy Pitts pointed out that directions on how to pay dues via an e-transfer needed to be added to the ADRP website (Menu – documents / membership). This option is especially important for Truro campus members who cannot use payroll deduction.

5. Other reports:

A. Pension Advisory Committee

Randy reported that a meeting was scheduled for next week. The big issue will probably be the increased rates for those who will be subject to the enhanced CPP. However, another concern is the situation at Laurentian University. Laurentian has recently declared financial difficulty, and questions have been raised about how that affects their defined benefit plan. Whatever happens may be taken as a model by other jurisdictions.

B. Seniors' College (SCANS)

Classes in the Winter Term continue, and a public lecture is being planned for March. The College is in the process of deciding how it will serve its members in the future e.g., (all online, some online, no online).

C. CURAC

Grace announced that David has volunteered to serve on the CURAC LLL (Later Life Learning) committee. Four objectives have been established and the first meeting will occur later this month.

CURAC did conduct a strategic planning survey, which has identified three recommendations. Grace said that she planned to have a discussion with Marilyn about putting some of the CURAC findings in the *Newsletter*.

6. Other Business

The subject of honoraria was raised. It was mentioned that honoraria are a mark of respect and that they establish an expectation. They are often donated to a charity. After some discussion and recognition of the current surplus, it was MOVED (Leach/Paterson) that ADRP establish adopt a policy of offering honoraria for speakers not exceeding a total of \$500 per year (at an amount of \$100 per speaker).

7. Adjournment

The agenda having been finished, the meeting adjourned.