

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**ADRP Board of Directors' Meeting**  
**2:00 – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**Present:** Heather Schellinck (chair), Randy Barkhouse, Marilyn Klein, Marek Kujath, Ed Leach, Oriel MacLennan, Grace Paterson, Nancy Pitts, David Tindall, Peter Wallace.

**By Invitation *pro tem*:** Stewart Cameron, Susan Holmes

**Absent:** Phil O'Hara

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**1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as presented, with the proviso that further info on returns to the bursary fund will be added to the Treasurer's Report.

**2. Minutes of ADRP Board Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

MOVED by Ed Leach that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as modified. MOTION CARRIED.

**Matters arising:** Discussion continued concerning donation matters, as we were reminded per CRA requirements, and various possibilities were mentioned, such as a contribution to Divest Dal group, research group/groups in the seniors context in such areas as social work, geriatrics, nursing, etc. Heather mentioned fragility & psychology. Marilyn suggested we approach research services for advice re soliciting proposals from honours students and/or graduate students; Ed underlined the importance of project work. Marilyn & Heather agreed this matter should be on the agenda for the upcoming General Meeting. Marilyn also suggested the geriatric fall clinic, and support for canes & walkers; Grace mentioned the Medical Research Foundation and the Collaborative Care Team.

**3. President's Report**

Heather welcomed Stewart Cameron (a web guru) and Susan Holmes, a recent retiree and possible Board member, to the meeting. She reported that Glenn Shea, a long-time member of Dal IT, has volunteered to assist Stewart.

Heather affirmed that the GM will be per Zoom, on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

She reported that she and Randy had a meeting with President Saini concerning the updated MOU. She planned to contact him in early December regarding his thoughts on the MOU.

She then referred to the ADRP Constitution, noting the secretary was also required to look after membership and no reference was made to a membership chair, and her view that the work is enough for two – perhaps some revision is needed?? The jobs were originally combined. Marilyn suggested that perhaps some Terms of Reference needed for all committees etc. Randy advised very careful reading of the amending process as laid out in the Constitution and Heather indicated a willingness to consult with Colin Stuttard on the matter. Heather further observed that Article 5 indicates no remuneration for members of the Board, referring to the situation of 2 members coming in for meetings now & in future – their costs should be addressed & compensated. Peter and Nancy responded on this front, both preferring the term compensation. Peter then enlarged on the duties of members of the Board and potential revisions.

Finally, Heather reported on a meeting with the new Dean of Science, lightly attended, where there was a presentation of possible new initiatives (a proposed new Chemistry building); issues pertaining to retirees and their role were aired, there being several in attendance.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

Ed Leach presented his financial report, as of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

**CUA Chequing Account.** Balance is \$15,381.68.

**Savings Account 7634-20-3.** Balance is \$81.51.

**Savings Account 7634-21-3.** Balance is \$1,200.42

Certificate # Deposit Mature Interest Principal Accrued % Closing Val.

76364-40-3 02/03/2020 08/03/2022 2.250% 10,667.54 177.71 10,855.25

76364-41-3 02/03/2020 08/03/2022 2.250% 11,852.06 197.26 12,049.32

76364-42-3 12/19/2020 12/19/2022 .800% 20,467.14 141.76 20,608.90

76364-43-3 12/02/2019 06/02/2022 1.950% 10,195.53 181.38 10,376.91

**TOTALS:** 53,197.27 698.12 53,890.39

**Dalhousie Account:** Balance unchanged at \$2,999.16

**NOTES:**

1. An additional \$15,000 has been sent to Diane Robinson in the Advancement Office.
2. Dues for October were deposited on November 3rd \$1,140.42.

**5. Committee Reports**

**A. Benefits**

Peter Wallace briefly reported on upcoming meetings and on the current situations respecting retirees and “early” retirees and former NSAC retirees/PSSP recipients (Public Service Superannuation Plan). Nancy Pitts commented on dental benefits and NSAC retirees, *inter alia*.

**B. Communications**

**B.1. Webmaster**

Stewart Cameron made a detailed presentation on the ADRP website, its history and recent activity. He recommends that the webmaster attend ADRP Board meetings. There are currently 52 pages (including newsletters back to 2002), 50 posts, 156 media items, 278 active contacts/subscribers, and a strong opening rate of 1000 messages, 72% opened. He estimates some 2 to 4 hours/month on maintenance. He raised concerns pertaining to security and confidentiality.

Our authoring package is WordPress, found to be popular and capable with daily backup per VaultPress and some plug-ins and statistics. Our servers are Canadian-based. BUT, it is visually neutral and could improve on that front, and there are some format issues with mobile devices. Is a communications policy needed? more visual content/look?

He suggests securing rights to other ADRP possible domain names. Glenn Shea, previously with Dal IT and therefore with some expertise, is enthusiastic to join Stewart in “sprucing up” the web-site. Perhaps the Board might consider hiring a site manager if major change is envisaged?

Heather thanked Stewart for this briefing. Marek inquired re the .com possible domain name. MOVED by Randy SECONDED by Peter that the matter of three additional domain names be pursued and effected.

Marilyn and Stewart proposed a communications committee, with terms of reference, and will bring forward a document for the Board to consider

at our next meeting.

## **B.2. Newsletter**

Marilyn Klein commented further on Stewart's proposals and management of Information of interest to Dal retirees. She indicated the current issue, with a deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> November, will be available well before the general meeting.

## **C. Pension Advisory Committee**

Randy Barkhouse reported on recent meetings and communications in this regard. The Board has received more detailed reports as meetings etc etc proceed. The next meeting will be 1<sup>st</sup> December.

There is a large RTF surplus, perhaps some \$25M, but not allocatable for indexation purposes now, apparently, but perhaps possible with an actuarial evaluation in the New Year.

A new sub-committee is proposed to examine the matter of employee groups and participation in the CPP enhancement; the OAS clawback issue was flagged.

There is some consideration of hiring a consultant to study the matter of amalgamating the two trust funds. Faye Woodman will be attending any meetings on this matter as our alternate.

The matter of divestment is now under consideration by Dal administration, given active pursuit by other Canadian university pension funds.

Heather asked what about the banks and divestment; in response Randy alluded to three factors: their fiduciary responsibilities, the role of Mark Carney, and the oil companies building war chests as governments etc. withdraw their support. David Tindall raised a question regarding Revenue Canada and the pension surplus; Randy responded that the limit is 125%, and we are now at 115%. David generally finds divestment counter-productive, as the big oil companies (Exxon, Shell, and their ilk) only account for 10% of production world-wide; otherwise the Saudis, the Venezuelans etc etc. Randy commented on a "phase down phase out" approach, as there are no good alternatives yet. Further discussion ensued, touching on plastics ubiquitous and on cobalt production (70% comes from the DRC), the Ring of Fire in NW Ontario, and Chinese lithium deposits.

## **D. Membership**

Heather reported that we now have some 720 members, and referred again to the administrative challenges of keeping lists up to date and accurate on this front. Grace raised a question re widows of members and possible expectations; existing lists will be checked.

#### **E. Seniors College**

Nancy Pitts reported on the SCANS Covid protocols communication and proof of vaccine policy (see SCANS web-site) recently adopted. She noted the upcoming lecture by Delvina Bernard “Reparations as an economic & social development strategy to overcome the legacy of enslavement, colonization \* cultural genocide” (23<sup>rd</sup> November).

Winter course offerings, to be announced shortly, will be a mixture of Zoom and in-person sessions.

A new SCANS logo is now under consideration.

#### **F. CURAC**

Grace Paterson reported that the CURAC conference this coming year will be virtual, emanating from UBC, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022, so no travel expenses and no fees for member associations.

She indicated that, as she is no longer a member of the CURAC Board, she will be stepping down from her role as our representative on CURAC, having served a three-year term.

#### **6. New Business**

All were reminded of the upcoming General Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Heather requested interim reports by the end of November, some of which will be included in the upcoming Newsletter, deadline of 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Marilyn requested a list of projected dates for next year’s meetings.

#### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.