

Approved Minutes  
ADRP Board of Directors' Meeting  
Tuesday, October 17, 2023  
2:00 – 4:00 pm

Attendance:

In-person at Monaghan Square: Grace Paterson, David Mercer, Peter Wallace (Chair), Pat Nearing, David Tindall.

On-line: Susan Holmes (Secretary), Stewart Cameron, Marilyn Klein, Randy Barkhouse.

Regrets: Heather Schellinck (President), Ed Leach (Treasurer)

Chair Vice-President Peter Wallace called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

1. Agenda was adopted as presented.
  
2. Previous Minutes - September 19, 2023
  - A. Approved – David Tindall/Pat Nearing
  - B. Matters Arising
    - i. Connecting with DFA - Randy Barkhouse, Heather Schellinck  
No further contact. When are next DFA negotiations? It would be a good idea to have a conversation with DFA President David Westwood before his term is up. Randy will speak with Heather upon her return.
    - ii. Location for GM, Dec 12 – Peter Wallace  
Old Ashburn on Joseph Howe Drive has been booked. The room is a good size for 50 people and accessible. There is a monitor on landscape wall but no other equipment. Stewart offered to assist with attendance and equipment. We will encourage significant others to attend. People may attend the social without attending the GM.

Plan B would be Zoom GM and social later at Ashburn if the technology in November is not dependable..

Swag - Pat obtained 3 golf shirts for women, 2 sweatshirts for men.

Camera Photosmart 307 from ADRP office

50/50 draw with half going to Feed NS

**MOTION:** That the secretary reserve Ashburn for November Board Meeting to test equipment for the GM. Susan/Marilyn PASSED

3. President's Report – Peter Wallace for Heather Schellinck  
No report from Heather.  
As VP, Peter attended Jennie White's retirement party. She is continuing until Dal hires a replacement. Margaret White, who was Assistant to Dean of Science, and is mother of Jennie and Anne Marie. There are several members of the family employed at Dal.

Marilyn will ask Anne Marie for a story.

4. Treasurer's Report – Ed Leach (absent)
  - A. Financial report (attached)
    - i. Grace indicated that travel expenses to CURAC came out of the Dalhousie Account.
    - ii. It was requested that the Treasurer's report include a breakdown of contingency fund vs accumulated surplus.
  - B. Registry of Joint Stocks status – Susan will follow up with Ed.
  - C. Propose committee to set parameters on use of surplus
    - i. Susan reported on a conversation with Daniel Holland, Community Foundation of NS, October 4. The foundation is an enabler for getting funds to charities or projects that match a donor's impact areas. We are looking for research or projects that will benefit aging adults. Daniel will research possible matches and respond by the end of October.
    - ii. Ed will be asked to proceed with creating a committee that will propose parameters at the November Board meeting for approval by the Board. These parameters can then be presented to the membership at the GM.
  
5. Other Reports
  - A. Benefits – Peter Wallace (attached)
    - i. Thirty plus members attended the webinar on retirees travel benefits. Three people contacted Heather wanting to view the recording. Peter will have a copy from Dal to post on ADRP website soon.
    - ii. Vaccines: pneumonia, flu, Shingrix, etc. There is a need to check on details so we can inform our members.
    - iii. Stewart will speak with David Zitner regarding the CURAC Health Policy Committee paper on the pros and cons of the flu vaccine. If posted on ADRP website it would be with the caveat that ADRP does not offer health advice. The paper is 14 pages and does not seem to be on the CURAC website although it was approved.
  - B. Communications
    - i. Communications Committee
      - a. ADRP Branding implementation progress – Stewart Cameron  
Stewart demonstrated the files we now have for incorporating our brand images in PowerPt slides, letterhead, logos for print, Instagram. We have to check on how mailchimp, proposed for the newsletter, will transfer to the website and mail.  
  
We plan to launch our new branding at the GM in a coordinated manner.
      - b. Instagram - Pat Nearing

We now have an Instagram account with Pat as administrator, named "Dalhousie\_Retirees". Once we begin to use it, it will be linked to website. Pat explained that the idea of Instagram is to provide information/photos of ADRP activities to the public. It will be branded as an official arm of ADRP.

Stewart invited Pat to join Communications Committee and he accepted.

- c. Banner, bookmarks for Holiday Social – Susan Holmes  
Board support to proceed with these. Budget in place.
- d. Archival Project – Stewart Cameron  
Heather and Marilyn went to ADRP office. Papers are relatively well-organized. A lot of things already exist electronically but a more thorough analysis is needed. There was mail with cheques; mail needs to be picked up more regularly by Heather/Ed.  
Colin Stuttard – Susan emailed and received nine more photos.  
Next steps in the archival project to be determined.

#### Webmaster report - Stewart Cameron

Around 1,000 hits per month. Pension plan update really of interest, next to newsletter. No down time. Marilyn has been helping with website work and she has lots of good ideas.

#### Newsletter - Marilyn Klein

Next deadline November 21. Please submit reports written for the GM audience. Note that for the GM, a couple of Powerpt slides are suggested for each report.

#### C. Pension Advisory Committee – Randy Barkhouse (See full report)

Automatic indexation of 2.8123% will be given next January. The number was capped by the 1-year CPI, as the actual 3-year average return to the RTF at June 30 was 8.33%. The dip in 1-year CPI in June has frustratingly been followed by an increase to 4% in August.

The actuarial valuation as of January 31 showed an RTF surplus of \$46 million, and an overall Plan surplus of \$23 million. That latter surplus frees the Board of having to make any deficit amortization payments, savings several \$million in the operating budget. It may be that the BoG will park a portion of those savings in a Pension Stabilization Fund as was done in the past, to guard against a return of the deficit when the next valuation is done in January 2026. See Full Report.

D. Membership

No report.

E. Socials & Events – Susan Holmes (attached)

Star Gazing with David Hoskin took place on October 12, the rain date, and it was a beautiful night. Two new members attended.

A host is needed for March. A member who is simply going to a movie could put the word out and act as host.

The Retirement Lifestyle webinars with Dr. Susan Hutchinson, sponsored by ADRP for members far and near, are November 8, 15, 22, 29 at 1:30 on Zoom.

F. Seniors' College – Nancy Pitts (attached)

Fall semester has started. Two courses are available both online and in-person (History of Medicine in NS; Energy Efficiency) and one via Zoom webinar (Science of What We Eat). In addition, there are 15 in-person courses being offered at the various chapter locations.

Course recordings are available on SCANS youtube channel. SCANS has around 500 members. Popular seminars included Mi'kmaw Creation Story and The Canadian Arctic: Life in Nunavut.

Nancy will encourage proper pronunciation of Mi'kma'ki during the land acknowledgement.

G. CURAC – Later Life Learning Committee – Susan Holmes

Webinars offered by McMaster Univ Alumni Association added to ADRP learning opportunities.

6. New Business

- A. Ed Leach – Propose ADRP action regarding absence of age in current Dalhousie Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness (ED&I) policy.
- B. David Zitner and the Health Policy Committee completed research on vaccines. Stewart will connect with David regarding this topic.

7. Adjournment 3:50 pm. **Next Meeting: November 21, 2023, 2:00 pm**

Attachments:

- 1. Financial Report
- 2. Benefits Report
- 3. Pension Advisory Committee Report
- 4. Upcoming events
- 5. SCANS Report