

**RTOERO Northumberland District 30 Executive Meeting  
September 26, 2023**

**Attending: Heather Griffin, Marsha Jones, Philip Palmer, Charlotte Majic, Mark Fallis, David Wing, Jeremy Fowlie, Kathy Harding, David Staples, Morris Tait**

**Regrets: John Ralfe, Marlene Amos, Wendy Westwood, Mary Ellen French**

**Welcome: President Marsha Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting.**

**Minutes: David S. moved, seconded by Charlotte, that the minutes from August 29 be accepted as printed. Carried.**

**Treasurer: Jeremy reported that we have a balance of \$21 930.50; our grant will raise to \$17 500 from the current \$16 000. Jeremy moved, seconded by Kathy, that the report be accepted. Carried.**

**President - Marsha reported on the recent Presidents' meeting. Dr. Kieran Rabheru stated that human rights don't have an expiry date and senior rights must continue as they age. Education is the key! Tai Huynh notes we use too much medicine. Antibiotics don't work on viruses though patients demand them. Only 67% of those prescribed inhalers actually have asthma; 33% of tests provided in Canada are unnecessary. For any blood transfusion, doctors often order 2 units though 1 may be sufficient. They are encouraged to order only 1 and order the 2nd if required; this is happening now at Sick Kids Hospital. Currently, if new members want to join our health plan, they must apply separately to membership and the health plan; chasing delinquent fees is costly and time consuming. A proposal will be made at the Spring Session to remove fees for Benefit Plan members. Retirement Planning Workshops - since 2019 there have been no fees for participants, walk-ins are welcome and there is a 3 hour time limit on the actual presentation. Renaming RTOERO - The goal is to change it to something more inclusive; member input is encouraged; a company has been hired to assist.**

**Vice President - No Report**

**Goodwill - Wendy reported 2 new members have joined in September. Two sympathy cards were sent and 23 September birthday cards were sent to members 80 or over. She received a lovely card addressed to the Executive "thanking us for remembering her on her birthday". Wendy noted that she felt the Brighton Meet and Greet was fun and well attended. She reminded everyone that the Bowmanville event is on October 24 at Frosty John's, from 2:30 - 5:00.**

**Member Services - Morris reported that there will be an article in the upcoming Applepress regarding Seniors and Falls.**

**Communications -** Kathy reported she participated in two recent sessions concerning newsletters. Our next Applepress is nearing completion; the electronic copy hopefully will be ready next week.

Philip noted that 75% of District 30 members read online and 90% read a hard copy.

**Benefits -** Philip asked the executive to forward any suggestions for changes to our plan, and he will see that they are sent on to head office. An example, suggested by Jeremy, was that a specific amount of money be allocated for an apparatus, instead of limiting the number of apparatus you can get in the year.

**Retirement Planning Workshop -** Mark reported that this will be at Arthur's Pub, Cobourg on October 28. Marsha will welcome everyone, then RTOERO staff take over the presentation. Snacks and tea, coffee etc. will be provided. Mark notes the posters will soon be available and we will use the KPRDSB Courier where applicable. We are encouraging all involved in education to join RTOERO - day care providers, custodians, secretaries etc.

On October 2 at noon Mark will bring the posters to Charlotte's home; any executive member who is available that day to assist in distributing the posters is asked to attend.

**Review of District 30 Survey -**

- 52 of 800 members did the survey
- we had more readers than average compared to other districts
- we will encourage members to Like/Follow Facebook
- we will focus on less social media sites, and do our choices really well
- any other suggestions are to be forwarded to Philip

**Sleep Cabins -**

The organizers are hoping to find volunteers from District 30 to assist in Port Hope.

**Meet and Greet -**

Marsha encouraged executive members to attend whenever possible.

**Pub Night -**

Marsha will look into organizing this, or a similar event, for members who continue to be employed.

**Reserve Funds Reduction Plan -**

- use funds for a Pub Night
- use funds for mileage to cover executive attending RPWS
- Motion: Moved by Heather, seconded by Charlotte, that we donate \$2 000 to assist local Food Banks (\$300 to Newcastle, \$300 to Bowmanville, \$1 400 to Northumberland). Carried.
- Jeremy noted that we have \$4 000 budgeted for Senior Advocacy; we need to look into ideas to support this endeavour.

- Possible donation to the new hospice to be built in Clarington.

**Next Executive Meeting is NOVEMBER 21.**

**Adjournment - 11:45 am**

**These minutes were prepared by David Staples, Secretary of District 30 RTOERO.**