

# General Meeting (Spring 2008)

**Place:** Chatham Legion Hall

**Date:** May 22, 2008

President Wendy Matthews called the meeting to order, welcoming the assembly and asking everyone to stand for a moment of silence in honour of Hannah Stewart who passed away since our last meeting.

The President then explained that Esther Mahoney had agreed to act as secretary for the day.

A special welcome was extended to new members who may not necessarily be 2007 retirees, and to some returning members. She explained that it is possible to pick up new members during the year if the person is joining through central deduction, as these applications can be processed at any time, with dues beginning in the month following the application being submitted. Payment through local dues is done annually in October. She reminded us that Memorial cards may be picked up today.

Four sign up sheets were circulated for a bus trip, bowling, breakfast, and e-mail addresses.

The President thanked Villa Urquhart for the terrific work she did with the Newsletter, which was found at each place along with an NBSRT brochure. Members were asked to keep their newsletter handy as it has all the dates for next year's events. She brought particular attention to the two dates for Breakfast gatherings at the Portage Restaurant, June 10<sup>th</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Minutes** - Minutes submitted by Laura Sherrard for the Spring 2007 General Meeting were read. These were approved under a motion by Tony VanDyke, seconded by Glenn Russell.

**Correspondence** - There was a letter from the Hospital Foundation thanking MARTA for the \$200.00 donation to the Digital Mammogram Unit.

**Treasurer's Report** - Rosemarie Rigley circulated and read the report. In the regular fund account, the balance as of May 21 was \$[REDACTED]. The scholarship fund has a balance of \$[REDACTED]. The investments total \$[REDACTED]. The total of all assets stands at \$[REDACTED].

Rosemarie moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Mary Alice Ahern. **The motion was carried.**

## **Business Arising From the Minutes -**

Dues - The motion to increase dues to \$3.00 per month was passed at the April NBSRT meeting. Dues will increase beginning in September. This also applies to those who pay their dues locally. When membership is renewed next October, the annual dues will be \$36.00 for all members. \$12.00 goes to the local branch and \$24.00 to provincial branch.

Survey - The results of the interest survey done at the October meeting were as follows:

Meals - The largest response was to organize group breakfasts or lunches. The breakfast that took place in January at the Portage was well-attended.

Bus Trip - There were about 30 people interested in a bus trip. One will be organized.

Walking club - Dale MacRae is interested in leading the walking club. About 8 were interested. It will be advertised on the website. Others interested may see him today.

Computer Day - About 12 showed interest. Bill is going to contact the Access Center co-coordinator to see about a place to hold this activity and he needs someone to hold the workshop. Anyone who can help, please see Bill.

Bowling - There was also interest in a bowling day. This will be planned.

Other - Snowshoeing (Dale MacRae would lead this one), sleigh ride, and a card club. Since only 4 showed interest in the card club, we may be able to include this in the Games Day.

Website - Dale gave a very interesting laptop presentation of the website which he designed. This MARTA site links to NBSRT site and also from them to us. Dale asked that we let him know if there is anything that should be put on the site. Wendy thanked Dale for his impressive work.

NBSRT Report - President Wendy Matthews and Treasurer Rosemarie Rigley attended the meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Vernon Harding, membership chair reported that membership is increasing and that there are approximately 1,830 members on central deduction. The significant change is that Vernon has worked with Pension Branch to have dues deductions beginning the month following receipt of member application form. Previously, it was once a year. NBSRT gave very favourable comments on Miramichi website. NBSRT reviewed their Action plan - Wellness is one of the main goals. Each branch is encouraged to have a committee. Edouard Allain gave some history of the Insurance Plan and the reason for increases in group insurance premium. We are encouraged to visit the museum in Fredericton. The co-editors of Reflections are stepping down. If anyone is interested, please let it be known. 2009 is the Biennial

Meeting. The theme is "Wellness Anyone?" Anybody who is attending has voting privileges.

Insurance - Changes have been in effect since January, 2008. You will have received a group insurance newsletter notifying you and you will have seen the effect on your February cheque. There were changes for the 60 to 65 age group and changes for the over 65 group. Simply put, in January 2008, an increase in premiums if you are in the 60 to 65 category, and a decrease if you are in the over 65 category.

Click on this link for Group Insurance details: [Group Insurance Details](#)

We received a premium holiday for January and February from plan surplus. This may not occur next year. It depends on how well the plan does this year.

### **Committee Reports**

Social - Cil reported that the social games afternoon will begin again in September. The breakfast of January 25 was well-attended.  
Upcoming breakfasts at the Portage restaurant June 10 and September 2<sup>nd</sup>. She thanked Dale for keeping all up-to-date on the website.  
She also asked that if we know of anyone who is absent and would like to attend any function to please give her or Wendy the names so they can have an idea of the number attending. There will be an upcoming bus trip.

Museum - Joan Jardine had nothing to report.

Reflections - Lynne LeClair - A manual is in circulation. The co-editors of Reflections are retiring as of August 8. Anyone interested, please let Lynne or Dale know and it will be forwarded. Also, please give correct name and address to receive Reflections.

Membership - Marion Barrieau has forms for those who would like to change to central deduction.

Calling Committee - Gina Skidd reported that this committee is going well. We had 82 in attendance today.

Special Projects - Lenore Masterson thanked all those who contributed to the craft sale. The total reported was \$817.05. Hazen won the prize. Many thanks to all who helped.

Newsletter - Villa Urquhart had nothing new to report.

**Treasurer's Yearly Report** - Rosemarie reported a balance of \$ [REDACTED] as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 (2008 ???)

Total receipts	\$	
Total expenditures	\$	
Balance, as of Dec 31, 2007	\$	
Investments, Dec.31, 2007	\$	
Total assets, Dec.31, 2007	\$	

**This report was approved following a motion by Rosemarie Rigley and seconded by Helen Jones.**

### **New Business**

Gina Skidd has tickets for Branch 16-10 retiring teachers' banquet Saturday June. Social evening from 6 to 7. With the turkey dinner, tickets are \$35.00. The date of the retiring teachers' banquet for 16-08 was not available.

Preamble to a **motion**: Given the fact that there is \$ invested in the scholarship fund, why not extend the program by giving \$500.00 to each of the 4 area High Schools. It was **moved** by Helen Jones that at this meeting, the policy be changed to give four \$500.00 scholarships - one to each of the 4 high schools, that is JMH, MVHS, NSER, and Blackville. This motion was seconded by Joan Jardine. Following a discussion which included a reading of the existing guidelines by Wendy, the **motion was defeated.**

A second **motion** called for some caution. It was **moved** by Dale MacRae and seconded by Lynne LeClair that a review be undertaken to review the scholarship policy with a view to change the number of scholarships together with the amount, keeping in mind the sustainability of the scholarship fund with possible implementation next year. **Motion carried.** It was decided that the Executive would look into this and bring a preliminary report in October.

### **Nominations**

There were two resignations that were required to be filled. Laura Sherrard as Secretary and Maria Brown as Vice President.

Nominations were: Vice President - Rosemarie Rigley  
Treasurer - David Barker  
Secretary - Esther Mahoney

**All were elected by acclamation.**

Lenore Masterson thanked Cil Hickey for a job well done.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM**