

MIRAMICHI AREA RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

FALL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, October 20, 2016

Location: Father A.A. McKinnon Hall, Blackville

Call to Order:

President Rick Hayward called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM, and welcomed new retirees Diane Arbeau and Diane Buggie to their first MARTA meeting. Rick thanked Richard Walsh for photocopying reports for the meeting today. One-minute silence was observed in memory of deceased members of MARTA, members were reminded to be mindful of those members surviving with failing health. Wendy Matthews offered grace.

Guest Speaker: Dale MacRae

Dale brought greetings from NBSRT (www.nbsrt.ca) and expressed thanks to MARTA for agreeing to host NBSRT Biennial Celebration in May of 2017. Dale acknowledged that teachers from around the province are excited to come to Miramichi and he encouraged local MARTA members to attend. He advised that all forms and a calendar are on the NBSRT website. Dale explained that there is no longer a website committee as twitter and face-book are being utilized as well as the website; it is now an "on line media committee". Dale advised members he would be taking pictures during the meeting and dinner to post on twitter, and share to face-book.

Approval of October 20th, 2016 Agenda:

Grant Hendry moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Dave Barker. Motion carried.

Approval of Fall AGM Minutes- May 26th, 2016

Trudy Underhill moved, seconded by Lloyd Cameron to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Business Arising from Minutes:

Rick advised the group that a Wellness Grant valued at \$200.00 is available, but must be applied for, to support a wellness activity for members. Submissions of ideas (to Rick) regarding appropriate activities are encouraged. One suggestion was Chair Yoga-Trudy Walsh. Christmas Gathering: December 13, Pot Luck, Senior Citizen Hall, Nelson. The organizers are looking for better quality items for the auction---not yard sale standard. Description of item is also helpful to insure the auctioneer passes on the information accurately.

Financial Report:

Richard Walsh provided details/explanation with respect to the Financial Report (income/expenses) circulated for the period May 26, 2016 to October 20, 2016.

Regular Fund Balance on October 6, 2016	\$	
Scholarship Fund Balance on October 6, 2016	\$	
Total Investments Balance on October 6, 2016	\$	
Petty Cash Balance on October 6, 2016	\$	
Total Assets on October 6, 2016	\$	

Richard Walsh advised the group that GIC Investments have been moved from RBC (1%) to CIBC(1.35%) where the guaranteed interest rate was higher. Richard Walsh moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented; Lenore Masterson seconded the

motion. Motion carried. Discussion ensued regarding bursaries and scholarships. Funding for Scholarships is taken from the Scholarship Fund, however funding for bursaries is to be taken from general account. It is to be decided each year if bursaries will be given depending on the funding available in the general account.

NBSRT Report:

Rick Hayward reviewed the notes from the NBSRT Board Meeting (September 27, 2016). Topics covered were

- Ad Hoc committee reviewing NBSRT constitution
- Membership (2718)
- VESTCORP--October 1, 2016 VESTCORP became official entity
- Wellness Grant—Apply before December 31, 2016
- NBTA: Larry Jamieson and Kerry Leopkey, contract expired February 2016. NBSRT may be called on for support
- Johnson Insurance: Dale Weldon Renewal process has begun, finances good so no major changes expected. Members encouraged to be attentive to the beneficiary listed on insurance policies. New rate for couples, October issue of Reflections will have an informative article regarding what members should verify in their respective group policies.
- CAREpath: Support service program, which offers answers, guidance and advice to cancer patients.
- Travel Insurance: 100% of health care costs covered, cancellation or trip interruption is not covered. A period of 90 days with no change to medication is required before travel. This also includes changes to dosage (increase or decrease). One must be medically stable during the 90 day period prior to travel especially if they have any pre-existing, documented medical conditions. Copies of a written statement from your doctor stating that they are medically stable and therefore free to travel. It is a good idea to send a copy to Johnson Insurance prior to travel.

New Business: Citrus Campaign—Oranges from California!

“Retired Teachers Community Group” sponsors this campaign. All proceeds support local schools breakfast programs, bursaries, scholarships etc. Pick up date is December 7, 2016 at Dr. Losier Middle School. Place order by contacting Helen Jones and pay at pick up.

Committee Reports:

It was motioned by Grant Hendry and seconded by Kelly Murray that all committee report be accepted as read. Motion carried

Social Committee-Cil Hickey

The Games Afternoon started in September. It is held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Knights of Columbus Hall. There will be no Games Afternoon in December due to the Christmas Social.

Reflections-Merle Milson

Our spring edition of Reflections which you received in late June included the Branch News as well as a brief History of MARTA, this being our 40th anniversary. The fall edition should be arriving in late October or early November. It includes the Branch News as well as several photos from the spring AGM held at St. Andrews United Church in May. Also, an article was submitted to the Miramichi leader (Friday, October 7th) describing our group as well as upcoming events. For those that saw the article, there was one error and that was in the date of the Christmas potluck which is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13^h, not December 6th. Anyone having any ideas for future “Reflections” articles is asked to please let Merle know!

Telephone- Gena Skidd

Rick reported that the telephone committee is working well and will continue calling to advise members of breakfasts and dinners.

Special Projects- Lenore Masterson

Lenore thanked everyone for buying 50/50 tickets. Christmas party is December 13th at the Seniors Hall in Nelson beginning at 11:00 AM. Admission is \$5.00, item for food bank, item for auction if possible, food for potluck. \$100.00 of proceeds will go to food bank, the remainder going to Scholarship Fund.

Newsletter—Bill Rigley

The Fall MARTA Newsletter included important reminders regarding insurance when travelling. On the lighter side points regarding a “Retired Person’s Perspective” and “Great Truths About rowing Old” were included.

Website-- Grant Hendry

Website is working well. Grant encouraged everyone to check in often to keep updated. MARTA is also on Facebook. It is a closed group under Grant’s administration.

Membership—Wendy Matthews

There are 245 members. Forms for joining MARTA can be downloaded from the website or picked up from Wendy.

Courtesy—Rosemarie Rigley Since the AGM in May four sympathy cards were sent for deceased family members of our retirees---Paul Brennan for his mother, Mary Alice Ahern for her father, Jackie Taylor-Mullin for her husband and Rick Hayward for his father. Rose Marie thanks people for calling to advise her of deceased loved ones.

Biennial Planning—Andy Clark MARTA is hosting the Biennial Celebration on May 9 and 10th, 2016 at the Rodd Miramichi. There will be entertainment the evening of May 9th as well as during the day on May 10th. Numerous draws will be made on May 10th, including a Golf Package from Miramichi Golf and Country Club, and an Escape Weekend from Rodd that will be honoured at any Rodd in the maritimes. Winners need to be present to win. The planning committee will meet on Wednesday, October 26th, Wednesday November 9th, Wednesday, November 6th and Wednesday, November 23rd. Anyone interested in working on a committee is asked to contact Rick Hayward at 506.623.9079. Rick added that there will be several sub-committees to

work on. People on these committees would only attend the meetings specific to the committee they sign up for.

Adjournment:

It was moved by Richard Walsh to adjourn at 12:09 PM. It was seconded by Trudy Underhill.

Trudy Underhill

Secretary