

Miramichi Area Retired Teachers Association
MARTA Spring AGM and Dinner
St. Andrew's United Church, Wellington St.
Tuesday, May 28, 2019, 11:00am

Call to Order/Welcome

President Andrew Clark called the meeting to order at 11:01am. He welcomed the membership and new members: Sondra Craig, Karen MacDonald and Lise Hickey.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was amended to include Helen Jones, speaking for the Retired Teachers' Citrus campaign, under #11 Other. Grant Hendry moved to approve the agenda. Nancy Blackmore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker

No guest speaker.

Annual Remembrance of Deceased Members and Lighting of the Memorial Candle

Maria Brown read the names of deceased members: Dorothy Creighton, Doreen Burns, Mildred Campbell, Winnifred Jardine. Cil Hickey read the poem "Remember Me", followed by the lighting of the candle, and a moment of silence.

Minutes from the Fall AGM, October 23, 2018

Secretary, M. Hawkes, presented a summary of key points from the minutes. Full minutes are available on the MARTA website. A limited number of photocopies were made available. Grant Hendry made the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Laureena Black. Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

Grant Hendry, chair of the MARTA Constitution and Bylaws Alignment Committee, requested a motion to present the committee's amendments to the membership for discussion. The motion was moved by Bill Rigley, and seconded by Pat Clancy. Motion carried.

Discussion was held. One correction was noted; Grant will make the necessary correction to the final document. The President motioned for the memberships' vote to ratify the MARTA Constitution and Bylaws as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence

A Thank You card was received, from Bob Chase, for the donation made to the MARTA Scholarship Fund in the name of Winnifred Jardine.

Treasurer's Report

Merle Milson presented the Financial Report. He explained that MARTA has three accounts: current account, scholarship account and the GIC Scholarship investment account. The Current Account receives a rebate from the NBSRT dues, of \$12/MARTA member, each year. The Scholarship Fund includes monies from the 50/50 draws and the Scholarship Memorials. The full Treasurer's report can be viewed on the MARTA website under the "Members Only" section. Merle moved for the adoption of the treasurer's report. Maria Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President's Annual Branch Report

Andy presented highlights from the report to the membership. The full report can be viewed on the MARTA website. Items of note were: -the establishment, and successes, of the Wellness Committee
-the establishment of a new committee to archive historical documents pertaining to MARTA from 1976 forward. Marjorie Sinclair will chair this committee. The Provincial Archives will house this material, and Marjorie will provide a progress report in one year.
-the challenge of expanding the membership

MARTA Committee Reports

Courtesy Committee-Maria Brown

Since October 23, 2018 sympathy cards were sent to the following members:

Donna Doak-her brother Jack
Eugene Donovan-his brother Stanley
Margaret Doherty-Crowley-her daughter Michele
Michael Butler-his brother Thomas
Kay Flanagan-her sister Marie Carroll
Nancy Blackmore- her brother Boyd Carnahan
Kevin Hubbard-his sister Lena
Eleanor Watt-her daughter Heather

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of our deceased members, and a donation was made to the Scholarship Fund for:

Doreen Burns- January 20, 2019
Mildred Campbell- January 24, 2019
Winnifred Jardine- April 16, 2019

Maria thanked Cil for accepting the co-chair position, and she expressed appreciation to those members who continue to assist her by providing the names of members, and members families, who have passed.

Membership Committee- Wendy Matthews

To date there are 258 members of MARTA. Wendy has application forms, but the application forms can also be found online on the NBSRT website. Application forms must be printed in order to complete them because a signature is required.

Newsletter - Bill Rigley

A newsletter was distributed to the membership. Included in the newsletter was important information about Travel Insurance.

Online Media- Rick Hayward

Members were encouraged to use the website, specifically the Breaking News section which provides important, timely information.

Reflections- Merle Milson

The Spring edition will include three In Memoriams, Branch News and an article on Wendy Matthews. A replacement is required for this position and Merle suggested that perhaps two or three people could consider working together. He will be available to assist his replacement(s) in getting started.

Social- Cil Hickey

The next Fall AGM and dinner will be held in Blackville, at St. Andrew's United Church, October 22, 2019. The meal will be a turkey dinner, with an assortment of pies for dessert.

Special Projects- Lenore Masterson

The Christmas Potluck and Auction will be held December 3rd, 2019 at the Nelson Seniors Hall. Items for the auction will be needed. The 50/50 Draw was \$282.00; the winner of \$141.00 was Mary Alice Ahern.

Calling Committee- Gena Skidd

Gena is stepping down from the committee. She thanked Merle Milson for filling in for her when it was necessary.

Wellness- Lois Gilliss

Lois gave a report on the year's progress, and thanked her team for their work. A review of activities held, and their success, was provided. Also, pictures have been posted on the website. Some upcoming activities were presented: July 17th Boat Tour and Trivia At O'Donaghue's (Bathurst Branch has been invited); September 3rd Welcome Back Breakfast (with display of members' talents); September 12th J and J Tours PEI trip to "Mama Mia" at the Confederation Center; November 6th, Bowling Tournament. The MARTA website will also carry a Wellness Newsletter where members can follow when Activities will be taking place. Members are encouraged to share ideas, and/or attend meetings, with the Committee.

NBSRT Committees

Group Insurance- Grant Hendry

The committee has submitted two resolutions, to the Group Insurance Board of Trustees, requesting that retired teachers be offered a larger representation on the Group insurance Board.

Membership- Andy Clark

The NBSRT Provincial Membership Committee has produced attractive, promotional pamphlets, containing a membership form, which will be given to all retiring teachers this year. Colourful posters have also been designed, showing a variety of photos of enjoyable retirement pursuits, and these have been printed and distributed to all provincial schools to hang in a place of prominence, such as a staff room, to entice new retirees to become members of the NBSRT.

New Business

NBSRT

- Highlights of the recent AGM held in Bathurst on May 8th, will be posted on the NBSRT website

- the NBSRT Executive Election will be held in the Spring of 2020. MARTA will conduct voting for the new Provincial Executive at its 2020 Spring Breakfast, April 7th. Venue TBA.

MARTA

- Beginning this fall, donations for the Food Bank from members, will be collected at the Fall and Spring AGM's, rather than at the Christmas Potluck. For the convenience of members, this information will be posted on the MARTA website. -MARTA Breakfast: beginning September 3, 2019, in the interest of time and enjoyment, members will order breakfast before any necessary announcements are made.

- MARTA items of Branch historical interest will be housed in the NB Provincial Archives. The Chairperson for this endeavour will be Marjorie Sinclair. -MARTA Election of the New Executive for the 2019-2021 Term of Office The election results are as follows:

Executive:

- President- Grant Hendry

- Vice President- Lois Gilliss

- Treasurer- Merle Milson

- Secretary- Mary Alice Ahern, assisted by Charlotte Casey

Committee Chairs/Co-chairs:

- Courtesy- Maria Brown/Cil Hickey

- Membership-Wendy Matthews/Andy Clark

- Newsletter- Bill Rigley

Online Media- Rick Hayward/Andy Clark
Reflections-open for a Branch correspondent
Social Committee- Cil Hickey/Rosemarie Rigley
Special Projects- Lenore Masterson/*Maureen Le Blanc (Position filled following conclusion of the AGM, Tuesday, May 28th)
Calling Committee-Trudy Underhill/Judy Fox-Roy
Wellness- Lois Gilliss/Trudy Underhill and Barb Donovan

Other

Helen Jones addressed the membership to thank them for their support of the Miramichi Retired Teachers Citrus Campaign. She presented information on how these funds are distributed within the area.

Andy thanked the St. Andrew's UCW for the lovely meal. He also thanked Cil and the Calling Committee for their work in preparing for this meeting. Andy expressed his appreciation to his former teachers, and his colleagues, for their support during his tenure as MARTA Branch President.

Next Meeting

The MARTA Fall AGM and dinner will be held in Blackville at St. Andrew's United Church Hall, Main St, at 11:00am. The meal will be a turkey dinner, with an assortment of pies for dessert

Grace

Richard Walsh gave the blessing for the meal.

Motion for Adjournment.

Charlotte Casey made the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Marty Hawkes
June 2, 2019