

MARTA 2022 Fall AGM Minutes

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Renous Recreation Centre

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by MARTA President, Grant Hendry, at 11:15 AM, with an opening welcome to all members in attendance,

Greetings were brought on behalf of NBSRT by President, Bob Fitzpatrick, who welcomed everyone and reminded all members the importance of inviting more retired teachers to become members of the MARTA Branch of NBSRT.

Adoption of the Agenda: Grant asked if there were any additions or errors in the meeting's agenda, as presented.

Highlights of the Minutes of the MARTA Spring AGM, held on Tuesday, May 31st, at Branch No. 3 of the Royal Canadian Legion, Chatham, were presented by Grant.

Business Arising from The Minutes: Donnie O'Neill going to compose a piece for the 2023 Spring edition. More branch correspondent contributors needed for branch news. Members were asked to please consider this request.

Committee Reports:

- a. **Financial** – Patsy Kingston, MARTA Treasurer, provided her report. Account balances were reported as follows: Regular Funds: \$11, 224.00; Scholarship Fund: \$ 2983.32; Petty Cash: \$111.00; and GIC Investment: \$ 49,919.84; Total Assets: \$52,652.67
- b. **Wellness** – Lois Gilliss: Christmas Wine and Cheese Event to be held on December 8th, at Three Dog Distillery, from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Dress: Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest. Prize draws to be held. Members were asked to please complete the NBSRT Wellness surveys provided to them at their tables. Lois mentioned the next Wellness Committee meeting would be held at Fundy Line Motel, at 11:00 AM, January 18, 2023, and that any member who would like to attend would be welcome to do so.
- c. **Branch Membership** – Andy Clark: Membership total stood at 257, as of November 29th. Since the Spring AGM, MARTA lost 4 members and gained 8 new ones. He mentioned that new Membership Application forms no longer require applicants to submit their SIN. As a final point, he reminded members that the 2022 Fall Edition of the VESTCOR NBTPP newsletter contained a membership form sent to all retired

teachers, including those who were already members of NBSRT. Members were encouraged to please reach out and encourage retirees to join.

- d. Online Media - Andy Clark: Andy outlined the layout of the website homepage with its easy access to all posts under three main categories: Announcements, Wellness and Best Wishes, and MARTA Events. There is a great need for new photos of members enjoying events for the banner gallery on the website, as photos are rotated as often as possible, for the interest of those who view it. The Memoriams page was completely updated last June with all passing years and dates of 20 members who had no designation, previously. Some of the deceased had been undesignated for a number of years. Andy sincerely thanked all who helped to make this happen.
- e. Courtesy – Maria Brown: Maria reported a 21 sympathy cards had been sent to MARTA members, since the Spring AGM, along with 4 cards to families of deceased MARTA members, for a total of 25 cards. She also read a thank-you card from Anne Kelly.
- f. Communications: Unavailable (New Chair to assume duties soon.)
- g. Newsletter: Unavailable (Bill Rigley - absent)
- h. Special Projects – Maureen LeBlanc: Unavailable (Maureen -absent)
- i. Scholarship: Elizabeth Price – Liz had nothing to report, as she had just assumed new role.
- j. Reflections – Grant reported that Reflections had two functions: 1. To collect happenings of Branch and 2. To promote the MARTA Branch. There are 3 issues which need to be filled each year: One will be completed by Donnie O'Neill for the Spring edition. He encouraged members to please consider contributing content to future editions, as the periodical is an important one for the provincial membership of all 10 branches.

New Business:

Report from NBSRT Board of Directors Meeting, held October 24th. Grant reported that MARTA well represented at the provincial level, with representation on several crucial

committees, including chair positions. He was very pleased and proud of this. Group Insurance: Dale MacRae for a five-year-term; Rick Hayward serves as Chair of the NBSRT Provincial Membership Committee which meets to discuss strategies, ideas and to develop increased membership, provincially, in all branches.; Colleen Forsythe as NBSRT Provincial Membership Secretary – She is responsible for the processing of applications from all 10 branches.

Other: Elections in the Spring. Seeking nominations for President and Vice-President. Mention of items and / or monetary donations for the Miramichi Food Bank and where they may be placed, following the meeting.

Grace: Merle Milson - Prior to adjournment of General meeting and commencement of dinner.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned: 11:54 AM

MARTA 2023 Spring AGM / Dinner: TBA

Meeting was followed by a delicious roast turkey dinner, dessert, tea / coffee, which was followed by a guided tour of the new and beautiful Kraft Hockeyville Arena and Extreme Fitness Centre.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Colleen Hayes, MARTA Secretary.