

West Toronto Junction Historical Society

2 February 2023

7 pm General Meeting, (Via Zoom)

In attendance: Christopher Sears (President); Richard Lundeen (VP); Vandra Masemann (L&R); Cassandra Pollack (L&R); Dave Muir (Corresponding Secretary); Angie Cruz (Treasurer); 21 others

Minutes recorded by Ward Noble

Item	Description	Action
1	<p>Welcome - The meeting was called to order by Christopher Sears on Zoom at 7:06 pm.</p> <p>Christopher outlined the impending existential crisis that the Society is facing with four members of the Executive retiring/stepping down and no volunteers stepping forward to take their place. He encouraged everyone to think about stepping up and/or recruiting new members.</p>	
2	<p>Vandra read the Land Acknowledgement.</p>	
3	<p>Christopher introduced Ted Glenn, author of <i>A Very Canadian Coup: The Rise and Demise of Prime Minister Mackenzie Bowell 1894-1896</i>. Through a storytelling style, Ted presented an engaging look into the political landscape of the late 19th century that resulted in Mackenzie Bowell becoming the fifth Prime Minister of Canada. By focusing on the personalities of the key figures at the time, Ted wove the story together to the delight of the audience.</p>	
4	<p>Welcome - the business part of the meeting was called to order by Christopher. A quorum of 10 was verified. 14 attended.</p>	
5	<p>Minutes of November 3 and December 1, 2022 meetings – Richard pointed out that the November 3rd minutes were reviewed at the previous meeting but they were not voted on as they had not been posted to the Website prior to the December meeting. Richard summarized the highlights from the December minutes. Richard moved to accept the minutes of the November 3 and December 1 General Meetings, Christopher seconded. CARRIED</p>	
6	<p>Membership Report - Richard presented on behalf of Adrian. He encouraged the 111 members with 2022 expiry to renew soon. There are a total of 144 annual members and 33 life members, for a total membership of 173.. Richard moved acceptance of Membership report, Diana Fancher seconded, CARRIED.</p>	
7	<p>Nominating Committee - Christopher announced that Hope has had to step aside temporarily for personal reasons. Christopher and Richard, as retiring officers, will carry on with the work of the Nominating Committee and would like some help to recruit new members, especially those who might be a fit for officer positions on the Executive. Richard outlined the work that the nominating committee has done and is continuing to do. Christopher reiterated a need for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and other volunteer positions. Dave M. pointed out that without a minimum of 3 officers, the society would, for practical purposes, cease to exist. Vandra and Cassandra suggested having a large ad</p>	<p>Christopher and Dave M. to speak to each other to draft a message to the membership. February 15 deadline for L&R content. Richard to put together a phone crew to pass on the urgent message and to post on Facebook. Christopher to look into posting on the Volunteer Toronto website.</p>

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	in Leader and Recorder Issue 1. Christopher and Dave M. to plan what needs to go to the L&R and to send a message to the membership both by phone and email. Lance indicated he could help with MailChimp. Vandra recommended posting a message to Facebook to reach a wider audience.	
8	Treasurer's Report - Angie reported the balance in the bank account is \$24,349.49. Angie received an email from the Ontario Historical Society. Christopher has spoken to them and their cheque is in the mail. Angie to speak to Christopher to close the books for 2022 and send them to the accountants. Angie moved approval of the Treasurer's report, Richard seconded. CARRIED.	Angie and Christopher to meet over the next week to close the books for 2022.
9	Preliminary 2023 Budget - Angie presented an updated version of the 2023 Proposed Budget. The proposed revenue for book sales were adjusted downwards as sales have been slow due to the dramatic rise in inflation. There was discussion about the proposed T-shirt amount, but there was a feeling that the new childrens' sizes would reinvigorate sales. Gifts and Donations was also adjusted down to \$2000. Christopher pointed out that the TPL license fee seemed high, but it covers 20 months going back to May 2022 plus all of 2023. The proposed budget needs to be posted on the Website 20 days before the AGM and should be posted after the March General Meeting.	Angie and Christopher to meet and apply for the HST rebate.
10	Updates and information items	
10a	Student membership implementation - Richard announced Adrian has created a new form to include the student membership.	
10b	Web/media support - Richard and David thought they had a new Web/media coordinator, but the person had to withdraw due to health reasons. Lance offered to help with MailChimp emails in the near term..	
10c	Preparation for AGM April 6 - Richard reported that an annual report would be prepared and posted on the Website. Volunteers involved in the activities will speak for a few minutes about those activities. The meeting will use the annual report as a guide..	
10d	T-shirt orders and sales - There have been no sales or orders. Christopher is planning to spend a Saturday at the library each month to sell t-shirts and other merchandise. Others are welcome to join him.	
10e	TPL Licensing Agreement Christopher indicated no movement from TPL	Christopher to contact TPL again for the requested information.
10f	Leader and Recorder Update - Vandra and Cassandra reported that they have a full issue ready to go. Diana Fancher indicated that she would like to add a few paragraphs on the new Junction Heritage District and other updates.	Diana to provide Heritage District paragraphs for L&R inclusion in the next 2 weeks.
10g	Future presenters update - Adam Bunch, <i>The Toronto Circus Riot: A True Tale of Sex, Violence, Corruption and Clowns</i> is confirmed for the March meeting. Christopher Moore, "Whether a British monarch should remain Canada's head of state" needs to be confirmed for a	

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	<p>possible extra meeting in June, but he is currently out of the country. Chris Rutty from St. John's Anglican Church, West Toronto, has offered the church as a location for a hybrid November meeting. Christopher indicated he has exchanged emails with him. Diana suggested that Chris Rutty mentioned he works for Connaught Labs and that a WTJHS outing might be planned to tour the facility.</p>	
10h	<p>Other Business - Diana shared that she and David B. met with Fiona Smith from TPL regarding cooperation, putting some pictures or a database on the TPL website. She also met with representatives at city hall regarding the new Junction Heritage District. The Heritage District committee is also looking for new members.</p>	
	<p>Richard moved for adjournment of the meeting. The motion was CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.</p>	