

MRBS Executive Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 19, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Present: Randy Deffett (chair), Sandra Burk, Robert Watson, Dianne Renwick, Paul Warner, Lois Maxwell, Ila Vaculik

Regrets: Vandra Masemann, Astrid Neuland, Lyn Maureen Bradshaw, Rod Tennyson, Tim Daciuk, Volker Masemann, Raj Sharma, Ingrid Bubersky

Order of Business:

1. Call to Order 7:04pm. March 19 agenda approved.
2. February 13, 2024 Minutes approved.
3. Business Arising from February 13- none.
4. Announcements
April 10 MCI Home-School Council meeting, President Taanis Smyth has invited OMF and MRBS. Vandra Masemann will attend to represent both organizations to explain our work. Randy unable to attend.
5. President's Report- Randy Deffett
 - a) Governance- Charter draft amendments have met general approval. **To Do (Randy)** Write next version, distribute for comments prior to April 9th. Present for approval at that meeting.
 - b) Should MRBS and Onward Malvern Foundation (OMF) consider a possible merger? **Motion:** "Randy Deffett will prepare, for presentation at MRBS October 8th 2024 Executive meeting, an exploratory template to consider a sustainability plan between the MRBS and the OMF. This template will consider the possibility of what would be required for merging the two organizations and what would need to be considered in such a long-term plan."
 - i. Motion: Randy second: Sandra Burk. Carried unanimously.
 - ii. Notes: attached at end of Minutes.
 - c) How do we stay relevant to our alumni? Everyone knows the Muse!
 - i. '100 Years of the Muse': A good idea for 2024:
 1. Focus on Muse covers.
 2. Articles in Spring and Fall *Musings*.
 3. Photo posts on our website and social media platforms.
 4. MCI school hallway display cabinets.
 5. Local newspaper article.

Committee Reports

6. Finance- Robert Watson
 - a) Bank and book balance= \$6,650 plus \$3,000 in GIC's.
 - b) No Canada Help donations have been received since last meeting.

- c) Associate Treasurer, John Leahey and Robert will have conference call with our TD Bank March 21st to set John up for access to account for MRBS online banking.
- d) Robert is excited about John's enthusiasm to participate. John has been a supporter of the MRBS and was referred by Astrid Neuland.
- e) Randy is in possession of our Square Pay credit card reader, for when we have future need for it.
- f) **Motion:** accept Finance Report: Robert; second Randy. Carried.

Communications- Various

7. Database Membership (Dianne Renwick)

- a) Postal Only membership= 38 as confirmed by Ingrid Bubersky.
- b) Mass Emailing- Ingrid needs bounce backs from Fall 2023 Musings.
- c) **To Do (Dianne and Randy)** Set up Mail Chimp meeting with Dianne's contact, who runs website and email business. Investigate technical and cost feasibility for MRBS to run its own account.

8. Website- Paul Warner

- a) New website is working fine.
- b) Website Views Top 10 2023-2024 (Mar. 19 to Mar. 19) attached below. Full list is attached separately.
- c) **To Do (Paul)** Investigate how we may improve the appearance of the 'Donate Now' button, in particular how it is viewed on a Smart phone.

9. Social Media- Sandra Burk

a) Subscribers:

Platform	Oct. 10-23	Feb. 13-24	March 19-24
FB Group	1,352	1,453	1,417
FB Page	423	425	426
Instagram	144	150	?

- b) With MRBS being a 'Public' Group, Facebook accepts entrants immediately. When they ask to post material, Sandra analyzes request and has blocked questionable subscribers- numbers have dropped.
- c) Once we become a 'Private' Group we can qualify potential subscribers before accepting (once Malvern Shop closes).
- d) **To Do (Sandra):**
 - i. Assign Paul as a Facebook administrator (Group & Page).
 - ii. Post a 'pinned' donation page link on Group & Page.
 - iii. Remove Russell Pulkys as FB administrator (not having an active MRBS role).
- e) **To Do (Paul): Contact Shanta Nathwani to make Paul our Facebook Technical Director and remove herself.**

10. Musings- Sandra Burk

- a) **To Do (as a Group)** Edition to be ready for distribution by late May.
- b) No content has been received yet. Content to be included:
 - i. Malvern Shop promotion.

- ii. President's Report.
- c) **To Do (Sandra):** Post social media request for Musings written articles.

11. Archives- Lois Maxwell

- a) **To Do (Lois Maxwell)** Check if Committee is working on '100 Years of the Muse' project.

12. Incoming Postal Mail and Email- Vandra Masemann and Robert

- a) 2 pieces of postal mail received and forwarded to Robert.
- b) Email to 'redandblack' email: None (1st time in over a year).

13. Additional Business- None

14. Meeting adjourned 8:21 pm.

15. Next meeting: **Tuesday April 9**

Addendum #1

March 19 2023 to Mar. 19-23	
PAGE	# VIEWINGS
Home page / Archives	5,640
In Memoriam	1,527
MRBS Shop	1,336
In Memoriam — "M"	660
In Memoriam — "B"	593
In Memoriam — "NOP"	501
Members' List	484
In Memoriam — "C"	477
In Memoriam — "DEF"	447
In Memoriam — "UVW"	442
TOTAL VIEWS	19,967

Addendum #2: For Consideration in an Exploratory Template Plan Motion

"For presentation at MRBS October 8th 2024 Executive meeting, an exploratory template to consider a sustainability plan between the MRBS and the OMF. This template will consider the possibility of what would be required for merging the two organizations and what would need to be considered in such a long-term plan."

First thoughts (in no exact order and not final in any way):

1. Need a plan for sustainability.
2. How can we support each other when needed (sustainability)?
3. Support goes both ways.
4. MRBS and OMF- together or separate?
5. MRBS & OMF recognize each other's' importance for organizational continuity and interdependence.

6. What should the relationship be between the MRBS and OMF?
7. Clearly define the roles of each organization.
8. Do we need both?
9. Would the MRBS qualify for charitable status?
10. Does the MRBS Charter allow us to get involved with the OMF?
11. Considerations to factor in between the MRBS and OMF:
 - a. Areas of liability
 - b. Conflicts of interest
 - c. Goals
 - d. Leadership
 - e. Public visibility of each organization
 - f. Is the MRBS merely 'laundering' money through the OMF?

As per Lois, in 2024 the #1 OMF priority is meeting the ONCA Fall deadline. OMF has no time yet.